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Over for Koch
A wave of black and white pride swept New York on Wednesday as the two often divided racial groups took delight in David Dinkins' historic defeat of Mayor Edward Koch for the Democratic mayoral nomination.
Police and political experts declared that Dinkins was well on his way to become the first black mayor of America's largest city, having proved that he appeals not only to black voters but to the city's other disadvantaged majority.
Dinkins, who says he wants to be a fair and honest mayor, won 59 per cent of the city's black vote and almost a third of its white vote in a primary that spelled the end of Koch's turbulent 12-year rule.

Full report Page 2

Military exercises: Pakistan announced on Wednesday plans for its biggest military exercises, but said its traditional foe India had nothing to fear.
General Mirza Aslam Baig said 200,000 men would take part in the "Zarb-e-Momin" (Muslim strike) exercises in December about 200-250 km (125-155 miles) from the Indian border. (Reuters)

Lubbers to form cabinet: Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers was appointed by Queen Beatrix on Wednesday to form a centre-left government. (Reuters)

Erupting volcano rains ash: Mount Etna, Europe's most active volcano, rained ash and small stones on Wednesday on villages on its lower slopes.
Authorities said no one was injured, but dozens of cars were damaged and a mantle of ash one inch thick blanketed roadways.
The 15-minute burst of activity shot stones as high as 1,500 feet (500 metres) from a crater on the southeast slope. (AP)

Libel suit delayed: Lawyers for former Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai won a delay in the start of a libel trial against author Seymour Hersh on Tuesday after telling a court that the 59-year-old Desai's health had deteriorated.
Judge Ronald Norgie of the US district court set Sept 18 for the opening arguments in the case, which was to have begun on Wednesday. Norgie said, however, that jury selection will begin on Wednesday. (Reuters)

Gas explosion: A methane gas explosion in a coal mine in western Kentucky killed 10 miners and injured at least two on Wednesday, state police said.
The blast was the nation's worst coal mine disaster in five years, said the US mine health and safety administration. (AP)

Sleeping pill murder: A Lebanese doctor shot dead his creditor after his mother had slipped the man sleeping pills, security sources said on Wednesday.
They said multibillionaire of the Sunni Muslim Popular Liberation Army (PLA), which controls Sidon, had arrested the suspect and his mother. The mother gave the dead man, Elias Jadou, a meal laced with sleeping pills when he came to collect a debt \$200,000, the sources said.

Mandela release: South Africa's ambassador to Israel says the release of jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela is only a matter of time and will be high on the agenda of incoming President F.W. de Klerk. (Reuters)

Soviet message: Soviet Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov sent a message to Nobel laureate Mother Teresa on Wednesday, wishing her a quick recovery from a heart attack.
The message was delivered by the Soviet consulate to Woodlands Nursing Home, where 79-year-old Roman Catholic nun was admitted last week. (Reuters)

East Germans in Warsaw: Fifty-nine East Germans are occupying Bonn's embassy in Warsaw, hoping to go to the West like the thousands of their compatriots who have swarmed across the Hungarian border this week. (See also Page 6)

Zia coup a mistake; won't do it again: Baig

ISLAMABAD, Sept 13, (Agencies): Pakistan's Army chief said today the military coup carried out in 1977 by his predecessor General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq was a mistake.
General Mirza Aslam Baig told Pakistani reporters the decision to withdraw the armed forces from politics on Zia's death last year represented the military's collective will, not just his own.
The armed forces have ruled Muslim Pakistan for more than half of its 42-year existence. But Baig said martial law did not solve any problems.

"The Army has learned it from experience and would never repeat the mistake of 1977," the official news agency AFP quoted him as saying.
The Army had restored its image and would not like to smear it again, he said.
Zia overthrew the civilian government of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, father of the present Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.
The deposed leader was hanged in April 1979 on disputed murder conspiracy charges.
Zia made himself President and ruled for 11 years.

Most of it through martial law.
Baig became Chief of Army Staff when Zia was killed in a plane crash on August 17, 1988.
Within hours Baig promised to respect the constitution and the Army allowed Benazir's Pakistan People's Party to contest elections in November and take office.
He said many people came to him on Zia's death and pleaded with him to impose martial law but he refused. "It was not just my decision, but the decision of us all," he added.

Since then he has stressed his commitment to democracy.
Baig said that Afghanistan's mujahideen rebels could win their war against the Soviet-backed government even without outside help.
"God will not abandon them," he said.
"We may abandon them, our friends may abandon them," but they will still win, he said.
A bomb exploded today in a crowded village marketplace, apparently killing at least six people and injuring 25 others, police said.

Son of Singh to take action

NEW DELHI, Sept 13, (Agencies): The son of Indian opposition leader Vellore Singh said today he would sue three newspapers that charged he had millions of dollars in a secret Caribbean bank account on behalf of his father.
"I have come to India to initiate defamation proceedings against the Hindustan Times, the Telegraph and the Arab Times," Ajay Singh said in a statement.

His detailed account, first reported in the Arab Times and followed up in the two Indian papers, that he was holding up to \$21 million in a secret bank account on the island of St Kitts, with his father as beneficiary.
The Arab Times last month quoted Indian political sources as saying Ajay Singh, who works for Oilbank in New York, had deposited the money with the Caribbean bank during his father's tenure as finance minister.

"I have come here also to make myself available to the government for any prosecution it may desire to launch," the younger Singh's statement said.
"If the government makes a formal request, I am ready to waive bank secrecy immunity regarding my accounts abroad."

"I have an independent professional career and do not want to politicize the issue, but I feel that I am being made a gambit by those who want to swing by father for political purposes," he said.

He said he was shot twice in the head and twice in the chest by unidentified gunmen in a car, a senior police officer said in Jaipur.

Raj and his friend, Pradeep Kumar, were returning from college on a motorcycle when they were attacked on a busy road in the town's centre, said Suresh Arora, the senior superintendent of Jaipur.

He said Kumar was seriously injured in the firing. The killers fled in the car, he said.
Arora quoted Kumar as saying that he and Raj had been the sons of a goldsmith, a senior superintendent of police in the Punjab armed police.

Palestinians tied to Mafia

ROME, Sept 13, (AP): An Italian underworld gang seeking to buy machine-guns, pistols and explosives established links in Italy with a Palestinian group, authorities said today.
Police have identified 30 Palestinians and 16 Italians implicated in the arms trafficking, the Interior Ministry said, but it was not known whether any arrests had been made.
The announcement said the Italians were members of the 'Ndrangheta, a mafia-like organisation in southern Calabria involved in kidnappings and extortion.

Iran upgrades ties with Kuwait

'Peace talks any time, any place'

NICOSIA, Sept 13, (Agencies): Iran upgraded relations with Kuwait to ambassadorial level today in its drive to improve relations with neighbouring states soured by the eight-year-long Gulf war against Iraq.
The Iranian news agency Irna, monitored in Nicosia, said career diplomat Hussein Sadeqi would become ambassador to Kuwait, replacing a Charge d'Affaires. Sadeqi had acted as the Foreign Ministry's director-general for the Gulf states.
Iran has embarked on a vigorous campaign to patch up differences with the Gulf states since the election in July of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

As part of this policy, Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, long considered a dove in Iranian politics, met leaders of Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar during a non-aligned conference in Belgrade last week to emphasise Iran's desire for cordial ties.

HH the Amir of Kuwait, was quoted by Irna as telling Velayati: "We have no problem with the Islamic Republic of Iran and we want strong brotherly relations. Now that the war has ended we must ... prepare ourselves for a new era."

On the Iran-Iraq peace talks, (Velayati) today said Iran was ready to meet Iraq "anytime, any place" under the auspices of United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Iran had asked Malaysia and other members of the UN Security Council to help the secretary-general in reaching a UN resolution for lasting peace between Iran and Iraq, he said in Kuala Lumpur.

Velayati said today that Iran wanted to closer bilateral political and economic relations with Malaysia.

Speaking at a press conference prior to his departure after a two-day official visit, Velayati said Iran hoped to narrow the trade gap which now stands in Malaysia's favour.

Starting last year, Iran began importing Malaysian palm oil and expects to export crude oil to this country.

Iran currently imports about \$20 million worth of Malaysian products including rubber, palm oil and tin annually. Malaysian imports from Iran amount to less than \$1 million per year.

Referring to his talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad earlier today, Velayati said the prime minister had briefed him on the Cambodian conflict, particularly on the peace talks held in Paris earlier this month.

During his stay, Velayati also held discussions with Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin and Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar.

Grudge
Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said today Washington harbours a "deep grudge" against the Islamic revolution, and warning that any US conciliatory gestures toward Iran cannot be trusted.

In an hour-long speech, broadcast live by Tehran Radio, Khamenei described the United States as a "usurper" which has been "deeply wounded by its expulsion from Iran."

Speaking before a large crowd of countrymen who converged on his Tehran residence to renew their allegiance, Khamenei said: "Washington has had a deep grudge against Iran since the Islamic revolution" toppled the pro-Western monarchy in 1979.

House votes suspension

Cory slipping under the gun

MANILA, Sept 13, (UPI): A case of gun-running has emerged as a major national issue, challenging President Corason Aquino to deliver on promises to dispense justice and restore ethics in government regardless of the political cost.
The episode began Sept 5 when customs agents at Ninoy Aquino International Airport found 314 handguns and rifles in baggage allegedly owned by Rep Nicanor de Guzman, who had just arrived from California.

De Guzman, a member of the pro-Aquino struggle of the Democratic Filipino Party, denied owning the weapons and claimed he was being framed. Philippine Airlines claimed he and a Filipino businessman checked in the luggage at Los Angeles international airport.

The incident quickly took on a political dimension. De Guzman, an obscure lawmaker from Nueva Ecija province, is an associate of Mrs Aquino's powerful brother, Rep. Jose "Peping" Cojuangco.

The incident also occurred amid growing discontent over perceived corruption in government, inaction in congress, political favouritism and a breakdown in the country's criminal justice system.

De Guzman remains free pending a magistrate's investigation. Last month, however, Dominique Adams, a 22-year-old woman from Salt Lake City, Utah, was jailed initially after customs found 70 handguns in her luggage. She was freed on bail and is awaiting trial.

The House of Representatives yesterday found de Guzman guilty of "disorderly behaviour" and unanimously voted to suspend him for 60 days.

The house adopted the findings of its ethics committee, which investigated de Guzman on charges he allegedly brought in assorted pistols and "street sweeper" shotguns on his return from a visit to the US.

In a stormy, closed-door meeting that began last afternoon and stretched past midnight, 165 of the 199-member house who were present voted unanimously on a recommendation to suspend de Guzman for two months.

Speaker Ramon Mitra later told reporters: "After a careful, thorough and painstaking assessment and evaluation of the evidence ... the committee finds and so holds that Congressman de Guzman, either individually or in cooperation with others, participated in bringing said firearms into the country in apparent violation of existing laws." The committee report said.

"This participation, whether direct or indirect, constitutes in the view of the committee disorderly behaviour," it said.

"Considering the gravity of the charge and its actual and potential damage to the house as an institution and the members thereof, the committee after a secret voting of its members ruled as it hereby rules to recommend the sanction of expulsion," the report said.

But the house in full session by a vote of 91 to 65 with nine abstentions amended the recommendation of expulsion to suspension. Each of the members were called to explain their votes.

After that, the members voted unanimously on the recommendation of suspension, Mitra said, meeting a constitutional requirement that the measure can only be carried out by a two-thirds vote, or 133, or the entire membership.

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PLO confirms rejection of Mubarak plan; Sharon defends call for killing Arafat

KUWAIT, Sept 13, (Agencies): PLO said today the executive committee of the PLO rejected Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's plan for elections on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
A PLO source in Tunis said the committee, which met in Tunis late yesterday under the chairmanship of PLO leader Yasser Arafat, had not wanted to announce a categorical rejection of the plan, which could have offended Mubarak, but made it clear the plan would not be accepted.

The PLO confirmation came after a Kuwaiti newspaper quoted two leading Palestinians today as saying the PLO's executive committee rejected Mubarak's plan.
The daily Al Anba quoted the two Palestinian leaders as saying the committee rejected the plan because it fell short of Palestinian aspirations.
"The two Palestinian leaders rejected the Mubarak plan because its points constitute a departure from the real Palestinian peace initiative approved at the Arab summit held in Casablanca last May," the newspaper reported.

The newspaper added that two Palestinian radical commando organisations, the PFLP and the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PDFLP) have rejected Mubarak's plan and called on all Palestinian factions to adopt "a unified stand against the plan."
Two Palestinian leaders - Secretary-General of the Palestinian Communist Party and member of the 24-seat executive committee of the PLO Sulman Najah, and member of the PLO's executive committee Abu Afif Mustaf, who represents the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by George Habash, were speaking to the daily Al Anba from their headquarters in Tunis.

Al Anba said the two leaders rejected Mubarak's proposal during a meeting of the PLO's executive committee in Tunis late yesterday.
In Washington, Israeli Trade Minister Ariel Sharon today defended his call for the death of Arafat, comparing it with what he said was the US attempt to kill Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi in 1986.
Sharon, speaking at a news conference sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, said former US President Ronald Reagan "took a step like that."

Generic drugs not safe

Cheating exposed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. (UPI): The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found signs of cheating or critical manufacturing problems at nine of 11 pharmaceutical companies inspected in a widening generic drug scandal, Congress was told.

Representative John Dingell, Democrat-Michigan, chairman of the House of Representatives Energy and Commerce subcommittee probing the generic industry, said the revelations of wrongdoing further show consumers "can no longer be sure that generic drugs are safe."

Although Dingell said there appears to be little danger in most cases, he urged anyone who fears they have problems with a generic drug to consult a doctor.

Generic drugs are supposed to be chemically equivalent to brand-name drugs with expired patents.

The FDA is confronting a scandal spreading from recent bribery convictions of three of its own officials, three generic drug industry representatives and two drug companies. In testimony exposing the depth of wrongdoing within the industry, the FDA's Paul Voger said that his agency detected evidence of apparent cheating at eight of 11 firms singled out for inspection in May.

Ethics panel to investigate lawmaker in sex case

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. (AP): The House of Representatives ethics committee yesterday approved a preliminary investigation of US Congressman Barney Frank, who admitted hiring a male prostitute for sex and then employing the man as a personal aide.

Committee chairman Julian Dixon, a Democrat, who announced the investigation, would not say whether the vote was unanimous.

Dixon also announced that the committee

approved the request of one of its members, US Congressman Chester Atkins, also a Democrat, to withdraw from consideration of the Frank case.

Atkins said on Monday he feared a potential conflict, because he and Frank could be opponents in the 1992 election due to congressional redistricting. Dixon said another member would be named to serve in the Frank investigation, but Atkins would continue to consider other matters before the committee.

Frank, a leading congressional liberal and Democrat from Massachusetts, is an acknowledged homosexual. He sought the investigation of his conduct with the male prostitute, Stephen J. Gobie.

The committee resolution said the panel was "aware of assertions of relating to the conduct of Rep. Barney Frank in connection with his employment of a personal assistant." The panel "has determined that the matters merit further inquiry," the resolution added.

Yesterday's action begins only the first round of the house's disciplinary process, and determines whether a more complete investigation is necessary.

Frank issued a statement saying: "I welcome the decision by the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (the ethics panel's official name) to accept my request to proceed with an investigation. This matter is now before the proper forum. I will co-operate fully with the committee as it proceeds with its deliberations."

Senators concede defeat

Ban on smoking

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. (UPI): The Senate will approve a measure banning smoking aboard all domestic flights in the United States, leading tobacco-state senators said yesterday in virtually conceding defeat on the issue.

Senator Jesse Helms, Republican of North Carolina, promised to fight the proposed ban included in a \$11.9 billion Transportation Department spending bill for fiscal 1990. But he acknowledged Senator Frank Lautenberg, Democrat of New Jersey, prime sponsor of the prohibition measure, appeared in control.

"I think he has the votes to do the wrong thing in the wrong way," Helms said as Senate debate opened. "There is a lot of head counting going on. I acknowledge at this point it doesn't look good for the tobacco farmer."

The proposal, approved 18-11 by the Senate Appropriations Committee, would ban smoking on all domestic flights. It also would apply to foreign air carriers flying between two cities in the United States.

"One fact has emerged and can only be disputed by those who will not face reality," Lautenberg said. "Smoking kills... (and) you don't have to be holding the cigarette to suffer the effects."

The ban is "long overdue" and supported by "overwhelming numbers" of Americans, he said. "Here we have a problem that takes up to 400,000 lives a year and yet there are those who will do everything in their power to keep it that way."

Helms retorted that his concern was not "smoking or health," noting there has been no effort to ban alcoholic drinks aboard airlines. He said "a whole lot is drunk in New Jersey and a whole lot is drunk on airlines" and alcoholism causes far more "travels" than smoking.

"My concern is 200,000 small farmers in 23 states who take great pride in growing a legal product," Helms said. "I have never stood on the floor and advocated smoking. But I think people who smoke cigarettes have a right too. But they are not going to be given a chance."

Dinkins beats Koch in primary

NEW YORK, Sept. 13. (AP): New York Democrats chose calm, deliberate David Dinkins over brash mayor Edward I. Koch, bringing the nation's largest city closer to electing its first black mayor.

Detroit mayor Coleman Young, one of the first blacks to lead a major US city, savoured a big primary victory yesterday over a dozen challengers, and Democrats foiled Republican designs on House seats in Texas and California that were vacated by speaker Jim Wright and Democratic whip Tony Coelho. Wright and Coelho both resigned amid allegations of ethical misconduct.

Tuesday's primary election signalled the end of an era in New York, although Koch reminded supporters that it wasn't quite up.

"You'll have me from now to December 31st," he said in a concession speech. "I don't intend to keep my mouth shut."

Dinkins, the president of Manhattan Borough, one of the city's five boroughs, will face former federal prosecutor Rudolph Giuliani in the Nov 7 election for mayor.

Giuliani powdered cosmetics heir Ronald Lauder in an unusually bitter Republican primary election in which Lauder spent an estimated \$12 million on campaign advertising.

Dinkins won the Democratic nomination by cornering near-unanimous support from blacks and getting greater-than-expected backing from whites.

His theme of uniting the city took on unexpected urgency in recent weeks after a white mob in Brooklyn attacked and killed a young black man. Koch angered many blacks with his response to the killing.

The issues of crime, drug use and homelessness also dominated the mayoral campaign.

In a victory speech, Dinkins urged supporters not to savour Koch's loss. "We're all together now," he said. "Remember me? I'm the guy who brings people together."

With all the votes counted, Dinkins had 537, 313, or 51 per cent, to Koch's 445, 816, or 42 per cent. Two lesser-known candidates, former transit chief Richard Ravitch and city comptroller Harrison Goldin, split the rest.

Giuliani had 75,720 votes, or 67 per cent, to Lauder's 36,905, or 33 per cent. Giuliani will run as the candidate of the Republican Liberal and independent fusion parties, and said he wanted to be a mayor in the mould of Fiorello LaGuardia, who served from 1934 to 1945.

Dinkins was joined at a victory celebration by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a civil rights leader and past presidential candidate who was active in the New York and Detroit mayoral races. Jackson supported the winner in New York, but wasn't able to rescue the failed campaign of Congressman John Conyers in Detroit.

Conyers, 13-term congressman with a national reputation, was among the dozen candidates to challenge Young's bid for an unprecedented fifth term. But accountant Tom Barrow brushed past Conyers to place second in the primary, giving him the right to go head-to-head against Young in a November runoff.

With 92 per cent of the precincts reporting, Young had 97, 618 votes, or 52 per cent, to Barrow's 43,230 votes, or 23 per cent. Conyers was third with 33,232, or 18 per cent. Ten other candidates shared the rest.

With the victories in the two special congressional elections, the opposition Democratic Party has now won four of six special elections to fill House vacancies this year.

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Witnesses testify to Bakkers' lavish life

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina, Sept. 13. (AP): A decorator for Jim Bakker today took jurors on a video tour of the television evangelist's glitzy VIP hotel suite.

Using a screen set up in front of the jury box, James Taggart described the gold-plated bathroom fixtures, antique beds and mirrored walls of the Heritage Grand Hotel's fourth-floor presidential suite, where Bakkers and his wife Tammy stayed at times. Mrs Bakker is not charged.

Taggart said Bakker asked him to do the work on the 4-square-foot (370-square-metre) suite. On Monday, Taggart, using a wooden pointer and enlarged photographs of Bakker's homes, described other decorating work he did for the evangelist.

Taggart's testimony came three days after he was sentenced to more than 17 years in prison and fined \$500,000. Taggart and his brother David were convicted of evading \$525,000 in taxes on money from PTL.

James Taggart said Bakker ordered him to give his highland beach, Florida, condominium, "a very glamorous look." PTL bought and renovated the condo in 1982 for \$500,000.

Taggart said he sought to give the oceanfront unit the "theatrical presence" Bakker liked. Plenty of mirrors, and mirrored drapes with invisible seams. He said he decorated the condo for Christmas 1982 with a tree that cost \$5,000.

Don Hardister, the Bakkers' former bodyguard, testified on Monday that the couple's son, Jamie, had a two-story tree house at Tega Cay that at one time was air conditioned.

The prosecutor asked what happened to the air conditioner. "I took it out and put it in the doghouse," Hardister said.

Bakker quit PTL in 1987 amid revelations about his 1980 sexual encounter with church secretary Jessica Hahn and a \$265,000 payoff for her silence. PTL filed for bankruptcy a few months later, prompting the investigation that resulted in charges.

PTL "partners"—big money contributors—who were promised three nights' lodging a year for life in the evangelical empire's hotels, also took the stand today, including a woman with 13 children and 21 grandchildren.

Sarah Combs of Spanishburg, West Virginia, said she and her husband, a disabled coal miner, were living on \$400 a month but donated \$1,000 of a \$19,000 black-lung compensation fund for a partnership in the Heritage Grand Hotel.



Jackson (left) congratulates Dinkins. (Reuter wirephoto)

Flag burning penalties restored

House passes bill, Senate action in Oct

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13. (AP): The House of Representatives yesterday overwhelmingly approved a bill designed to overcome an unpopular Supreme Court decision and restore criminal penalties for flag burning.

The Democratic-sponsored bill was passed 380 to 38 and sent to the Senate, which plans action next month.

The lopsided tally came after speaker Thomas S. Foley promised a vote later on a constitutional amendment.

ment, the remedy demanded by President George Bush and many congressional Republicans to undo the court's ruling that flag burning could be a protected form of free speech.

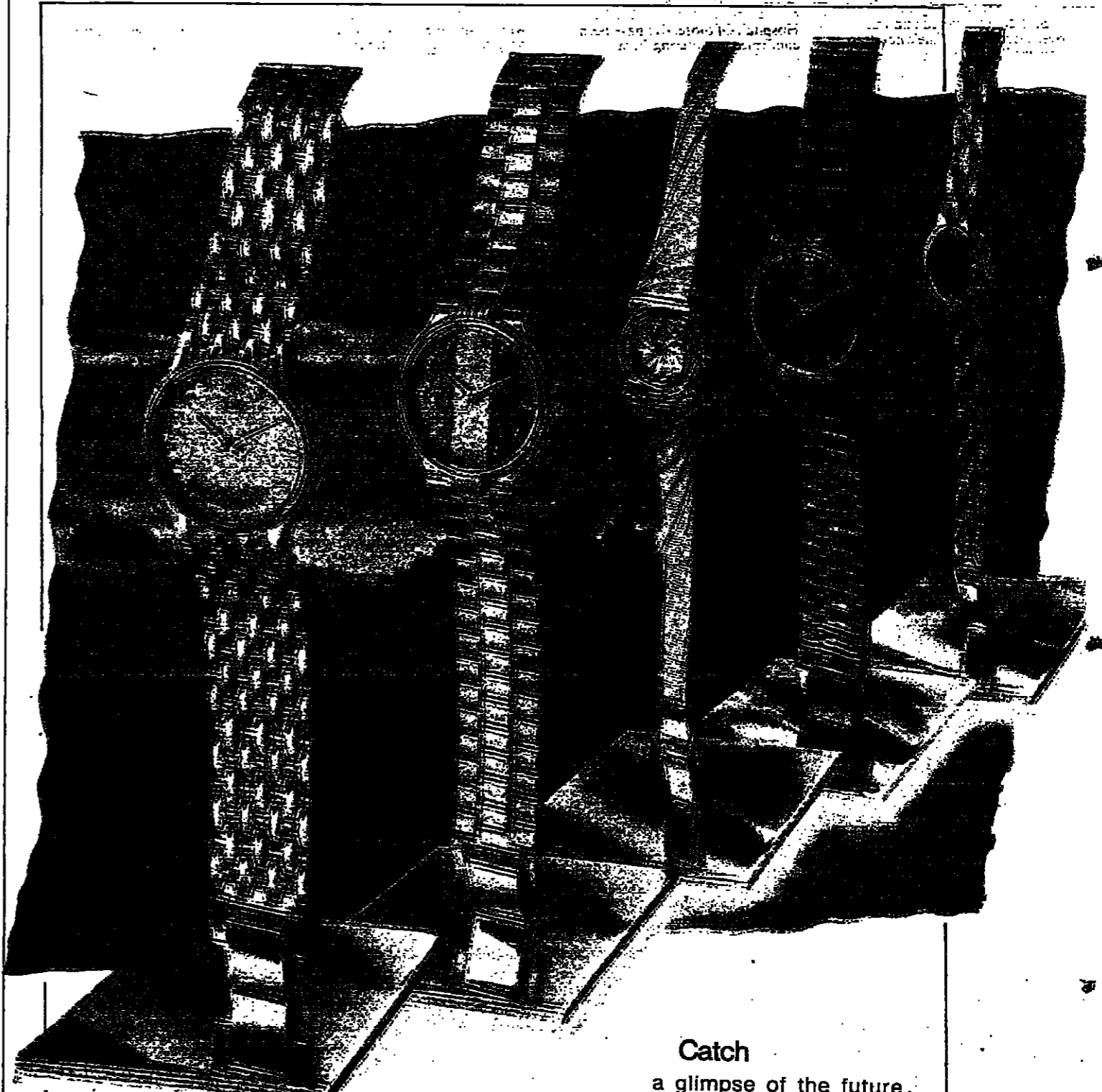
"I remain opposed... and I think the leadership is opposed to a constitutional amendment," said Foley, a Democrat, calling such action unnecessary tampering with the Bill of Rights.

However, he said he had assured those seeking an amendment they

would get their vote, and he denied that it marked a political setback.

Some seeking an amendment softened their opposition to the statute, once assured that the Democratic leadership would not use it to block their alternative.

At the White House, spokesman Martin Fitzwater said, "we believe that this bill is insufficient to provide the protections that we seek, and therefore continue to press for a constitutional amendment."



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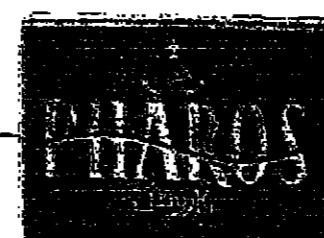
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1989 GCSE EXAMINATION RESULTS

The Gulf English School is pleased to announce that the average pass rate for the 1989 SEG and LEAG General Certificate of Secondary Examinations was 93.7%. Congratulations to fourth year pupils Rafik Badair, Wesam Alexan, Ryham Taha, Ehab Nada, Lama Yamak, Osama Faragalla and Rania Atef (7A and 1B) who each obtained 100% pass rates with five or more grade A passes.

Ryham Taha (6A + 2C)
(6A + 1B + 1C)

Rafik Badair (7A + 1C + A1)

Wesam Alexan

Ehab Nada (6A + 2C)

Lama Yamak (6A + 1B)

Osama Faragalla (6A + 1C)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

WASHINGTON: The ancestors of American Indians will "at last find their final resting place" under a plan by the Smithsonian Institution to return Indian remains to their tribes for burial, the chairman of the US Senate select committee on Indian affairs said Tuesday.

The agreement, which reverses a long-standing museum policy that made return of Indian remains rare, was added Tuesday to a bill before the House of Representatives that will establish a national museum of the American Indian in Washington.

"There are many people in this nation who predicted not too long ago that this day would never come," said the chairman, Democratic Sen. Daniel K. Inouye.

"Today, a process has started that will allow the ancestors of native Americans to at last find their final resting place," he added. "It's a day that will be celebrated by Indian leaders throughout Indian country." (AP)

SEATTLE: What was supposed to have been a fly-by of the new Boeing 737-300 for its customers turned into a fly-behind.

The new jet, flanked in tight formation by a 737-300 and a 737-400, was scheduled Monday to fly in front of the guests waiting at the museum of flight at Boeing field. But the jets flew over the building and behind the spectators.

"I'm not sure what happened," said Dick Schleh, a Boeing commercial airplanes spokesman. "I think the pilots of the planes believed they were to fly over the building and not over the runway."

Some guests did catch a glimpse of the formation, although the sun was directly overhead at the time, Schleh said.

Some people saw most of the first plane, half of the second and none of the third, he said with a laugh.

The guests included officials of major customers for the 737-300, including Southwest Airlines, Brazilian, Ecuador and Mexico.

ANTAROSA, California: Ramon Salcido, accused of killing people, including six members of his family, broke down in court Tuesday as a coroner described in detail his alleged April 14 crime spree.

Salcido, who was generally aggressive Monday during the first day of his preliminary hearing, began shaking uncontrollably and quivered his face with his hands as Greg R. Berry of the Sonoma county coroner's bureau described the conditions of the bodies he examined on April 15 and 16.

When Berry was shown a photograph of Salcido's daughter Sofia, 4, whose throat was slit, he said, "the only thing this photograph doesn't show is the degree of insect deprivation that was in progress."

Sofia and her two young sisters had their throats slashed and were left to die in a landfill overnight. One of the three survived.

Salcido whimpered and was overheard to say, "she's not dead, you liar."



A new recruit?

The Princess of Wales looks through a fibroscope hidden in a petrol tank on Sept 12 (Reuters wire-photo)

What a nerve: first transplant

TORONTO, Sept. 13, (Reuters): Canadian doctors are claiming success for the world's first nerve transplant, but must wait at least another year to be certain.

Nine-year-old American Michael Beech lost the use of a leg when his thigh was slashed by a boat propeller. Doctors at Toronto General Hospital implanted a nerve from a 16-year-old donor.

Dr. Alan Hudson, chief of surgery at the hospital said the transplant was the first, and probably the only case so far, Michael's own nerve has regrown, using the transplanted nerve as a channel.

"Nerve regenerates an inch (2.5 cm) a month, and the rate of regeneration is on target. We are waiting now to see if he gets motion. We hope to see movement in six months," Hudson said yesterday.

HOUSTON: Nearly 50 jail inmates were hospitalized or confined to the prison's infirmary Tuesday with symptoms believed caused by a bacterial infection blamed for the deaths of two prisoners.

Mark Casfield, chief of the epidemiology for the Harris county health department, said 18 inmates have been transferred to Ben Taub Hospital. Of those, five have been confirmed suffering from pneumococcal sepsis, the same

bacterial infection that killed two inmates Sept. 7.

Casfield said about 25 other inmates are in the jail infirmary and nine others were examined at the jail Monday as possibly suffering from the disease.

The inmates at Ben Taub were undergoing treatment. One was in critical condition and the others were in stable condition, said hospital spokesman Roger Widmeyer. (UPI)

SALT LAKE CITY: New Zealander Raymond William Smith, who left behind millions of dollars in debts in his home country, hopped a flight Wednesday out of the United States, immigration officials said.

"He has departed the United States," said Meryl Rogers of the Immigration and Naturalization Service's Utah office. "The decision to leave was his."

Smith, 47, left Utah just one day after the Bank of New Zealand filed a \$1.73 million claim in US district court for Utah against the businessman and obtained a court order allowing seizure of his US assets.

Bank lawyers immediately filed writs of attachment on three Hughes helicopters, a car, a 4-wheel-drive vehicle, and a hot-air balloon owned by Smith's Orewa Developments Inc., Park City, Utah, and his Utah bank accounts.

Attorneys for the Wellington, New Zealand, bank said the debt was from an unpaid 1987 loan funnelled to Smith through one of his companies. (UPI)

NEW YORK: Actor Al Pacino is returning to public view after a long hiatus.

The star of the two "Godfather" films and "Dog Day Afternoon" says in Vanity Fair magazine's October issue that he spent much of the past six years in dark glasses, false mustaches and disguised stage roles.

Out of sight since filming "Scarface" in 1983, Pacino stars in the upcoming romantic thriller, "Sea of Love," with Ellen Barkin, and plays a surprisingly light-hearted cameo as the bad guy in Warren Beatty's "Dick Tracy."

He also has agreed to play Michael Corleone for the third time after director Francis Ford Coppola said he had come up with a new concept for the third "Godfather" film, Diane Keaton, with whom Pacino has had a relationship for several years, again will play Corleone's estranged wife. (AP)

Mendes life story 'Batman' producers win rights

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 13, (Reuters): The producers of the hit films "Batman" and "Rainman" said yesterday they had defeated such Hollywood heavyweights as actor Robert Redford in the heated battle for the film rights to the life story of murdered Amazonian ecologist Chico Mendes.

Peter Guber and Jon Peters said they had acquired the rights with J.N. Filmes of Brazil after an eight-month bidding contest for one of the most coveted projects in recent Hollywood history.

"I am confident they (Guber and Peters) will produce a film that will truthfully tell my late husband's story," Mendes' widow, Ilzamar, said in a statement.

In addition to Redford, Cable Television mogul Ted Turner and British producer David Putnam were among the losers in a race that began soon after Mendes, the leader of a rubber tappers union in the Brazilian state of Acre, was murdered in an ambush last December.

The bidding war appeared to have ended in June when J.N. Filmes announced it had acquired the rights from Ilzamar Mendes. But leaders of the Chico Mendes Foundation objected that she had acted without authorization.

Although the cost of the Guber-Peters deal was not revealed, the Mendes Foundation has said it received several offers of over \$1 million.

Mendes' assassination provoked world-wide outrage and increased interest in the plight of the Brazilian rain forest. His alleged killers, members of a local ranching family, have still not been brought to trial.

NEW YORK: Isabelle Adjani thinks one actress has cornered the market on English-speaking roles that require foreign accents.

"Meryl Streep is the most effective customs and immigration officer," the French actress says in Vanity Fair's October issue. "She stands there and says, 'You can't come in.'"

Adjani's latest film, "Camille Claudel," was the biggest movie in France last year and opens in this country in December.

The 31-year-old actress won a Cesar, the French equivalent of the Oscar, for portraying Claudel, the mistress, muse and competitor of French sculptor Rodin. Claudel was a formidable sculptress and artist herself, but her stern Catholic family had her committed to an insane asylum for the last 30 years of her life. (AP)

MCMINNVILLE, Oregon: A woman was sentenced to up to life in prison for killing a ranchman during a shooting spree in which victims were selected by a nine-year-old boy who said they were possessed by demons.

Sharon Lee Halstead, 36, received a mandatory life term with a minimum of 30 years after pleading guilty to aggravated murder in the Nov. 2 shooting death of Maeston Lemke, a 50-year-old wrangler on a Newberg ranch. She is awaiting sentencing in a second killing.

According to court documents, Halstead was acting on the instructions of her nine-year-old son, Leo Shively, when she killed Lemke and Lynne Green.

Green was killed and her husband and two-year-old son were wounded in a shooting in Grants Pass three days after the Lemke killing. The boy was shot as he sat in his high chair and is paralyzed from the chest down. (AP)

EL PASO, Texas: When the going gets rough, a rafting trip down the Rio Grande, 27 British soldiers will have something familiar to fall back on — their Teddy bear.

Paddington Bear, the well-travelled Teddy bear found at Paddington Station in England in the children's book of the 1960s and 1970s, was front and centre in a blue duffle coat and red hat and boots when the soldiers from the 45th Field Regiment of the Royal Artillery began paddling the river Monday.

"He's going to travel the full length of the Rio Grande, as far as it is navigable," said Lieut Simon Crane, the team leader from Oxford, England.

The 1,100-mile (1,776-kilometre) trip is part of a yearly ritual of adventurous training for British Army soldiers. (AP)

OCEANSIDE, California: Alexander Haig is a four-star US general, unsuccessful presidential candidate, former secretary of state and one-time aide to former President Richard Nixon. And now

he's made his stage debut. On Sunday night, Haig and his wife, Pat, narrated Ogden Nash's verses that accompany Camille Saint-Saens' "Carnival Of The Animals."

The performance with the California Chamber Virtuosi ended a three-day musical festival celebrating the fifth anniversary of leisure village Ocean Hills, a 1,200-unit retirement community. (AP)

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PBS bags eighteen Emmys

NEW YORK, Sept 13, (AP): The Public Broadcasting Service won 18 Emmy Awards for news and documentaries last night.

Among the three major US television networks, CBS won 16, ABC eight and NBC five.

The awards were presented by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

The SYN cable network won two awards and the Home Box Office Cable network won one.

The entries had to air between Jan 1 and Dec 31, 1988.

There were more than 850 entries in 27 categories, which included awards for interviews, investigative journalism, analysis and cultural programming.

For outstanding coverage of a single breaking news story, CBS won for its programme on "The Tragedy of Pan Am Flight 103" and NBC won for its segment on the USS Vincennes, which shot down an Iranian passenger plane.

There were seven winners for outstanding background and analysis of a single current story.

In the programme category, PBS won for "Race for the Superconductor," on the TV series "Nova." ABC won for "Burning Questions — the Poisoning of America" and for "Nightline in the Holy Land: Town Meeting." CBS won for "Nightmare Next Door" on the series "48 Hours."

News

In the segments category, ABC won three awards, all for segments of its news and features programme "20-20."

The segments were "Still on the Wrong Track," "Fall from Grace" and "A Formula for Tragedy."

For outstanding investigative journalism, PBS won for "Murder on the Rio San Juan" on the series "Frontline."

CBS won for its segment on "Men of God: Borrowing on Faith" on the series "West 57th," and ABC won for its segment on "Cutting Corners, Costing Lives" on the series "20-20."

For outstanding interviews and interviews, PBS won for its programme "Masks of Eternity," ABC won for its segment on Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on "ABC News Nightline," CBS won for three segments: "Soviet Dentist" on the "CBS Evening News with Dan 360th," "Edward Teller" on "60 Minutes," and "Carla's Story" on "60 Minutes."

For outstanding coverage of a continuing news story, there were three programme winners.

PBS was honoured for the "Election '88 Wrapup" on "CE News magazine." CBS was honoured for two shows on the series "48 Hours" — "48 Hours on Gang Street" and "Faith Under Fire."

There were four segment winners for outstanding coverage of a continuing news story. NBC won for "Palestinian Uprising" and "Sudan Famine," both on the "NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw." CBS was honoured for "Pat Robertson" and "Homeless in America: Suffer the Children," both on the series "West 57th."

For outstanding informational, cultural or historical programming, PBS won for its programme "Can the Vatican Save the Sistine Chapel?" on "Nova" and HBO won for the programme "JFK: In His Own Words."

CBS was honoured for informational, cultural or historical programming for three "West 57th" segments: "Marriage Licence Bureau," "Children in Crisis: Saving Face," and "Broadway Baby."

For outstanding news and documentary achievement, PBS was honoured for the programmes "We Shall Overcome" and "Living with AIDS" on the series "Point of View."

David Davis, who produced "The Unquiet Death of Eli Creekmore" for PBS, was honoured as an individual for outstanding news and documentary achievement.

For outstanding individual achievement in writing, Anthony Potter and Eric Sevareid won for "Eric Sevareid: Not So Wild a Dream" on PBS. Stanley Breeden was honoured for "Australia's Twilight of the Dreamtime" on PBS.

For outstanding individual achievement in directing, Roger Goodman won for "Nightline in the Holy Land: Town Meeting" on ABC.

For outstanding individual achievement in researching, Marion T. Riggs won for "Ethnic Nations" on PBS.

For outstanding individual achievement in cinematography, Norris Brock won for "Inside the Soviet Circus" on PBS.

For outstanding individual achievement in electronic camerawork, Jim Douglas won for "Greetings from the North Shore" on PBS.

Parents of US spy appeal for his ailing wife's release

LONDON, Sept 13, (AP): The elderly parents of convicted US spy Jonathan Pollard said yesterday they feared his ailing wife may not survive another six months in prison because authorities have failed to give her access to adequate medical care.

Pollard, 35, an intelligence analyst with the US Navy, was convicted in

1987 of selling classified US military documents to Israeli agents, and is serving a life sentence. His 28-year-old wife is serving a five-year sentence as an accessory.

Morris Pollard, 73, who is visiting England with his wife, Molly, 72, appealed for the immediate release of Anne Henderson-Pollard from a

federal prison camp in Danbury, Conn. their daughter-in-law is expected to automatically receive parole by March 30, 1990, after serving more than three years.

"She has gone from 160 pounds (72 kg) down to 84 (38 kg)," Pollard said. "She cannot digest food. It is my opinion that she has been damaged irrever-

sibly, mentally and physically.

"If they continue to keep her in jail, they will have succeeded in doing what her father anticipated, which is to murder her," said Pollard, a microbiologist at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind.

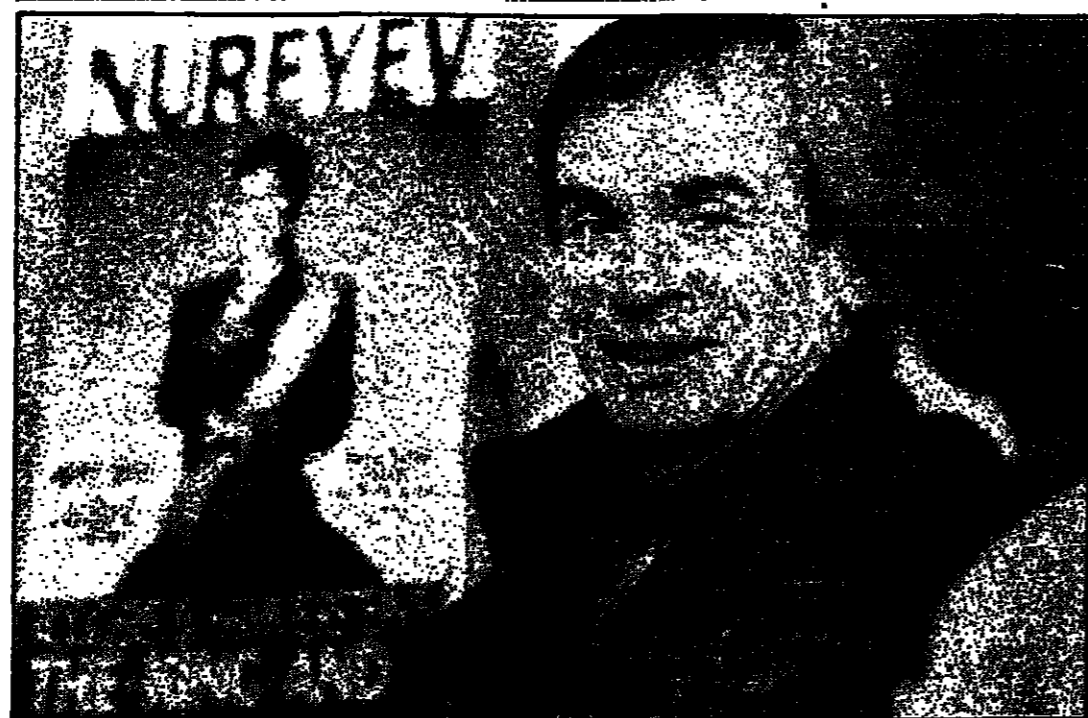
US prison authorities "don't want anyone to see this emaciated, weak,

disoriented individual," he said. "She's in such pain, she's angry. She may not survive her sentence."

Federal prison-hospital officials say Henderson-Pollard has slowed her intake of food, and refused medication and an examination in order to be referred to specialists.

According to court papers, she suffers from gastrointestinal disorders, an ovarian cyst and endometriosis which can cause chronic pelvic pain. Magistrates have rejected her lawsuit seeking the appointment of an independent medical consultant to examine her.

"The sad part is we were afraid to leave the country, we were afraid we might lose Anne," said Mrs Pollard.



Nureyev to star

Rudolf Nureyev, one of the most celebrated dancers of our time looks towards British actress Liz Robertson during a press conference at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel to promote a new production of Rodgers and

Hammerstein's "The King and I." Nureyev's role as the King of Siam is his first in musical theatre. (Reuter wirephoto)

Naked inmates chained to beds

Europe's guilty secret

ATHENS, Sept 13, (AP): The European Economic Community has given Greece more time to improve conditions at a mental institution on an Aegean island where conditions have been described as "inhuman," the government spokesman announced yesterday.

"The community had allocated a sum of one billion drachmas (\$6 million) to Greece (in 1984) for projects at the Leroy Psychiatric Hospital, to be carried out within five years. Only 20 per cent of this amount had been absorbed in projects," said spokesman Athanasios Kanellopoulos.

He added that the government had made efforts to improve conditions on Leroy after coming to power in July and that the EEC had therefore granted an extension for using the funds.

A leading London newspaper in a report published

last Sunday, called the Leroy mental institution "Europe's guilty secret," depicting "concentration camp" conditions in which 1,300 men, women and children psychiatric patients are held.

The paper alleged that naked inmates were chained to their beds with nothing to look forward to but death.

"As a doctor, as a psychiatrist, and as a Greek I feel shame with regard to Leroy," Professor Costas Stefanis of Athens University told a press conference.

Health Minister Miltiades Evert visited Leroy in July. "I was shocked by what I saw," Evert told reporters afterwards, admitting that conditions at the psychiatric hospital were "unacceptable."

He described seeing 100 naked women locked up in a room. The excuse given by the institution's administration was that the women's clothes had not returned from the laundry, Evert said.

Falklands debate likely: The UN General Assembly will probably postpone debate on the Falkland Islands, a rancorous annual issue since the 1982 war between Argentina and Britain, according to the Argentine UN ambassador.

Ambassador Jorge Alberto Vazquez said Monday night that Argentina fully expects that it will make substantial progress on restoring diplomatic and trade relations with Britain in talks to be held in Madrid on Oct 17-18.

Argentina's New President, Carlos Saul Menem, has agreed that the thorny issue of the sovereignty of the Falklands will be set aside and settled later. (AP)

Canada's lead on drugs: The decision to strip admitted drug users of their world records is unfair unless other countries follow Canada in exploring the drug problems in sports, a Canadian politician said yesterday.

Sprinter Ben Johnson's positive test for steroids at last year's Olympic Games prompted a Canadian inquiry into drug use in amateur sport and last Tuesday the International Amateur Athletic Federation adopted rules that will take away Johnson's 1987 world record in the 100 metres.

John Brewin, a Member of Parliament for the New Democratic Party, acknowledged yesterday that the government cannot interfere in IAAF internal policy, but said Canada is justified in wondering whether the federation's ruling will ever have any effect on athletes in other countries. (Reuter)

Jury selected: A jury has been chosen in the cocaine conspiracy trial of five US citizens accused of helping Colombian drug lord Carlos Lehder Rivas create one of the first large-scale smuggling rings.

US district Judge John H. Moore II scheduled opening arguments for this morning.

The panel was selected yesterday following two days of questioning prospective jurors about what they knew of Lehder's trial, which spanned nearly eight months in 1987 and 1988.

The five charged are accused of working with Lehder and others from 1974 through 1989 in a conspiracy to distribute cocaine. Three of the men also face drug smuggling charges. (AP)

Washington seeks: The United States signalled yesterday it would press ahead with its effort to oust Panamanian military leader Manuel Antonio Noriega from power, focusing its long-running economic sanctions more directly on Noriega's associates.

Officials said Washington was denying Panama access to an additional 1989 sugar quota and tightening the enforcement of a ban on tax payments to Panama by US citizens or businesses.

The officials said Washington also would add new names to a list of over 150 Panamanian officials to whom Americans have been barred from making payments. (Reuter)

High winds, rains kill 7: A high wind and torrential rains yesterday killed seven people and left thousands homeless in southeastern Brazil, according to television reports.

Globo TV, the nation's largest commercial network, said worst hit was the city of Curitiba, capital of Parana state some 522 miles (843 kilometres) southwest of Rio, where three people drowned and mudslides and winds crushed homes and knocked out power.

Another four people died in floods in outlying provinces of western Parana state, some 250 miles (400 kilometres) west of Curitiba, the network reported. (AP)

Rwanda arrests: The Central African state of Rwanda has uprooted more than 150 hectares (370 acres) of marijuana plantations and arrested hundreds of people in a crackdown on drugs, government officials said today.

The campaign began last May after the government discovered the plantation tucked away in the dense Nyungwe forest, 75 km (45 miles) southwest of the capital Kigali, they added.

Since then, the government had arrested several hundred farmers, traders and civil servants in connection with growing and distribution marijuana, the officials said. In one district near the Nyungwe forest, 160 people were arrested. (Reuter)



Largest grape press

A circus elephant was put to work Sept 13 stomping grapes in Geneva to inaugurate the wine harvest season in west Switzerland. Billed as the largest grape press in the world the elephant quickly stomped enough fruit to make 1,000 litres (quarts) of wine. (Reuter wirephoto)

Roman's death

It's a suicide

MIAMI, Sept 13, (UPI): Jose A. Perez San Roman, who led 1,500 men in the failed Bay of Pigs invasion 28 years ago, killed himself with an overdose of medication, authorities said.

San Roman, 58, was found dead Sunday morning in his trailer in northwest Dade county, Metro-Dade police spokesman George Reyes said. There was a handwritten note by San Roman's body, but its contents were not released by investigators.

Dorothy McKendrick, supervisor for investigations at the Dade county medical examiner's office, said Tuesday the cause of death was determined to be medication overdose.

"It was a suicide," she said.

Reyes said San Roman, who lived alone, had a history of depression and family members had tried to help him. Friends said he never recovered from his failed attempt to depose Cuban President Fidel Castro.

It always bothered him that the invasion had failed," said Modesto Castaner, president of Brigade 2506 Bay of Pigs Veterans Association. "The responsibility that he had, that took a great psychological toll on him."

His death, Castaner said, "has been received with great sadness. But it reaffirms our desire to continue fighting, now with one more martyr."

Bush appeals to nation's young people to say 'No'

Refusing drugs won't make kids outcasts

WASHINGTON, Sept 13, (Agencies): President George Bush, seeking to enlist the nation's young people in his war on drugs, yesterday declared in a nationally televised speech that refusing drugs won't make them outcasts.

"Most of you are doing the right thing," Bush told the nation's schoolchildren in his text. "But for those of you who let drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut."

Many democrats have assailed the package as too modest, and Democratic Sen. Robert Byrd, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said he was introducing legislation to boost it to \$10.1 billion. To pay for the increase, Byrd proposed cuts in many domestic and defence programmes of 0.575 per cent.

Senate Republican leader Robert Dole of Kansas and administration officials promptly said Bush would veto the Byrd proposal, which was offered as a rider to the fiscal 1990 transportation appropriations bill.

Dole first said Byrd "may have the best solution on the funding side of the equation" and "maybe we can work something out."

But later, Dole retreated, announcing that Republicans could not support the Byrd plan in its "present form."

Dole said the proposal contained more money than Bush wanted to spend and tilted the strategy more to education, rehabilitation and treatment, rather than to law enforcement, as the president recommended.

"Presidents don't often get the chance to talk directly to students. So today, for each of you sitting in a classroom or assembly hall — this message goes straight to you," Bush said.

The president said drugs were an "equal opportunity destroyer."

"They have no conscience," he said. "They don't care where the money comes from. They just murder people. Young and old, good and bad, innocent and guilty — it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death."

Displaying a badge from a slain 22-year-old New York police officer, Bush added: "I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk to remind me of that."

The badge belonged to New York City police officer Eddie Byrne, who was killed in 1988 while protecting a witness in a drug case. It was presented to Bush during a campaign appearance in New York last year by Byrne's father.

Secret

In a speech that aides said was particularly tailored to schoolchildren, Bush said: "I'll let you in on a secret: We all can succeed. If you don't use drugs, you can be anything you want to be — so don't blow it."

Bush's drug programme, which calls for spending \$717 million more in the upcoming fiscal year than he had previously requested, has run into stiff opposition from any congressional democrats. Some have claimed it doesn't go far enough and others have denounced his proposal to cut other domestic programmes to help finance it.

In other developments, the Defence Department said yesterday the United States is prepared "to expand the training role" of US troops sent to assist the Andean drug battle, and insisted those forces will not take part in any local anti-drug operations.

Giving the latest update on the US effort to battle the international drug scourge, Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams also defended the Defence Department against criticism from the chief of Colombia's national police force, who complained the Defence Department is sending the wrong equipment to fight the drug war.

Thomas Corbett Jones, 15, an anti-drug "peer counsellor" at Spingarn, said, "I told my eight-year-old brother to watch. And I hope kids will listen. A lot use drugs because they don't have anyone to tell them not to."

Calvin Barbour, 17, said, "what the President said made sense. And some people will listen to him. And some won't. They will just keep using drugs and die."

City police has reported a record 316 homicides this year in the district, the nation's "murder capital." Most of the killings have been drug-related and many involved rival gangs of youths battling for turf.

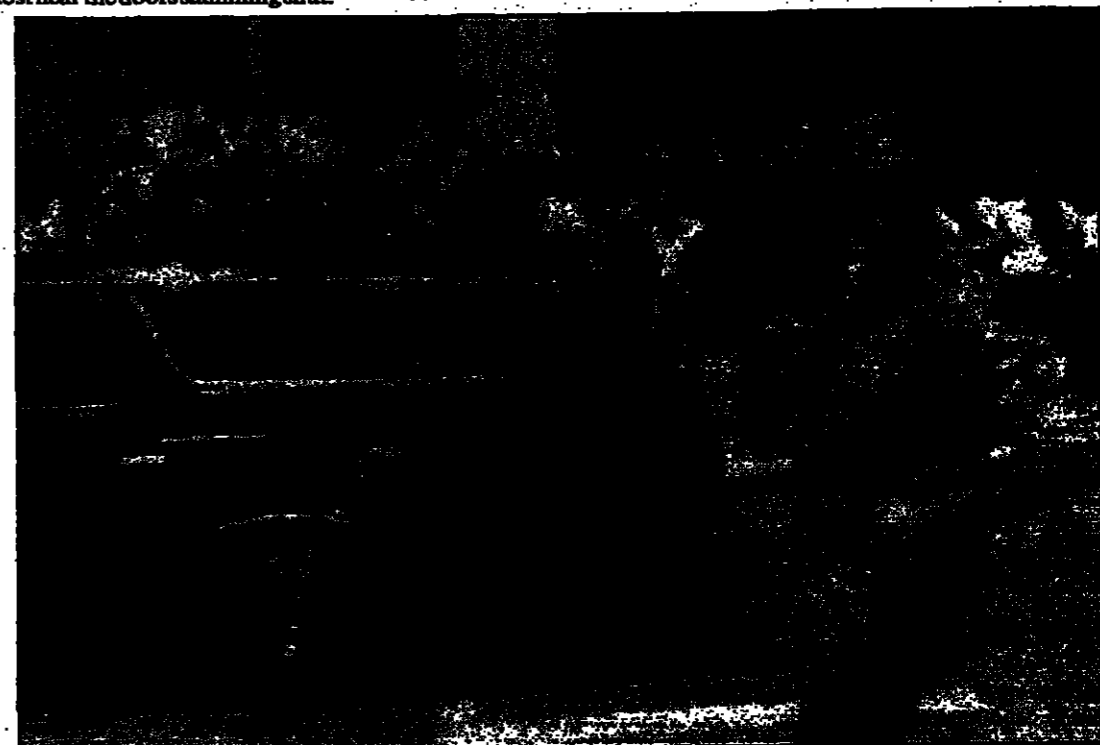
Spingarn High, which a decade ago had a widespread problem with narcotics, was designated a "drug-free school" by the Education Department earlier this year.

At the school library, student Hill said he has managed to stay away from drugs but "over the past year, a lot of my friends have been killed — stabbed, shot — because of their involvement in narcotics."

Hill said, "I don't know if the President has a good feel for the situation. He has never been through what we've been through."

The President's 12-minute address was broadcast live from the library in the White House living quarters and was to be carried by all four major US television networks for viewing in classrooms.

The speech came a week after he unveiled a \$7.9-billion national drug strategy that calls for more prisons, more prosecutors, tougher sentences and aid to Latin American nations to help combat drug cartels.



A government soldier guards the funeral car for former Medellin mayor Pablo Pelaez on Sept 11. (Reuter wirephoto)

Cartel arms unearthed

BOGOTA, Sept 13, (Agencies): The Colombian army has discovered the communications centre and a huge arsenal of one of the fugitive cocaine cartels at war with the nation, news reports said today.

Police in Medellin, home to the powerful cocaine cartel, reported today that officers frustrated an attempt to assassinate Judge Laurentino Vallejo Gil. An officer was wounded in a firefight with an armed gang that assaulted the judge's home last night, police said.

The army's 13th brigade took over the communications centre of Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, one of the top three figures in the Medellin cartel, near the town of Villa Gomez, 30 miles north of Bogota. It was located on a hill of a ranch owned by Rodriguez Gacha.

Found were rifles, submachine guns, grenades and munitions, according to newspaper reports.

Army officials said the communications centre contained equipment capable of intercepting and interfering in army and national police communications.

Another arms cache discovered nearby also produced numerous weapons, including Israeli-made Galil, R-15, AK-47 rifles, a MP-5 submachine gun and other arms, the army said.

The disclosures came a day after massive security measures marked the somber burial of former Medellin Mayor Pablo Pelaez, 45, who was assassinated on Monday by gunmen believed linked to Colombia's powerful cocaine cartels.

Pelaez, a businessman and member of the ruling Liberal party, was the fifth prominent Colombian assassinated since July and the first since a hit squad linked to cocaine cartels declared "total war" in the wake of a massive government offensive against drug traffickers.

The national government in Bogota called on citizens to take to the streets on Oct 1 for a massive mobilisation dubbed "Festival for life" in support of government anti-drug programmes.

"Yes to life, no to drugs," was announced as the festival's theme.

In Washington, the Pentagon denied reports the equipment it

Colombians claim miracles

St Galan on the way

BOGOTA, Sept 13, (AP): Sen. Luis Carlos Galan, the presidential candidate gunned down by drug traffickers last month, is taking on the dimensions of a saint in the minds of many Colombians.

Dozens of people who gather every day at Galan's tomb in Bogota's central cemetery claim the slain politician has granted miracles.

In the tradition of Catholic mysticism in Latin America, often disapproved of by the Vatican, they ask Galan to cure illness, bring back missing loved ones or grant them luck.

Charismatic and handsome, Galan was 46 when he was killed Aug 18 in a hail of gunfire as he gave a speech in a slum area of southern Bogota.

Martin Restrepo Rojas, 57, claims prayers to Galan's spirit saved his daughter, Maria Teresa, from typhoid, after doctors said she had no chance.

"When Galan was assassinated, we were upset, just like people all over Colombia," the auto mechanic said. "But then my wife said we should pray for the senator's soul, and sure enough, he performed a miracle and cured Maria Teresa."

His wife, Rosa Maria, said the family prayed every day following Galan's slaying. The daughter, 23, got better in two weeks, she said, so the family made a 30-hour bus trip from the rural town of Pasto in southern Colombia to personally offer thanks at Galan's tomb.

Juan Manuel Turbante, 43, a Bogota clothing salesman and another visitor to the cemetery, said the late senator helped him win 150,000 pesos (\$35 US) by giving him, a winning lottery number in a dream.

"From the moment I learned of Galan's death, I prayed to him to give me the winning number," a smiling Turbante said. "I prayed for 13 straight days. I never lost faith."

"On the 13th night, I dreamed that Galan had come back from the dead and saw me and shouted the number 13 to me repeatedly," he went on. "The next day I bet on 1313. And it won. I'm only sorry I didn't have more to bet. I could have won even more."

Carlos Cifuentes Olate, 45, a Bogota accountant, said his son left home two years ago to join the revolutionary armed forces of Colombia, one of six leftist guerrilla groups operating in this South American country.

"I had given up hope," he said. "After Galan was killed, I remembered that he always had spoken in favour of reconciliation between the government and the guerrillas, so I prayed to him to make my son come back."

"You won't believe it, but seven days later my boy returned."

has sent to Colombia under President Bush's new \$65 million emergency military aid programme is of little use in Colombia's war against the cocaine cartels.

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said the US so far has provided only \$10.4 million in aid under the programme.

On Colombia's problem of leftist guerrillas, 12 members of the largest of the nation's six rebel groups, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, were killed in a clash with regular army troops, an officer said today.

Col. Tobias Duran Quintanilla, the military commander of northern Colombia's Cesar Department, or state, said in a radio interview the fighting

occurred there yesterday.

The government, meanwhile, continued talks with the second-largest guerrilla group, M-19, at a rural encampment in central Colombia, aimed at working out some sort of truce and amnesty for those rebels.

Thirty-five Colombian police officers began a two-week course this week in court security at the US marshals service's special operations training centre, an agency spokesman said yesterday.

The junior officers and senior non-commissioned officers of the Colombian national police are being trained at camp Beatregard, Louisiana, as part of a \$65 million US aid package to Colombia to combat drug traffickers.

Money matters: drug pushers won't listen to Bush

WASHINGTON, Sept 13, (UPI): Just a few miles — and yet a world away — from where President Bush delivered his nationally televised anti-drug lecture to schoolchildren yesterday, Travis Hill Jr., 16, listened intently and feared the worst.

"As long as people make money selling drugs, they won't care what the President says," Hill said. "And as long as this happens, more and more people will get killed."

Hill and most of his 600 classmates at Spingarn High School in a drug-ravaged section of the District of Columbia quietly watched Bush's 15-minute address.

Thomas Corbett Jones, 15, an anti-drug "peer counsellor" at Spingarn, said, "I told my eight-year-old brother to watch. And I hope kids will listen. A lot use drugs because they don't have anyone to tell them not to."

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Hill said, "I don't know if the President has a good feel for the situation. He has never been through what we've been through."



Lubowski seen arriving together at the Windhoek airport with Swapo's Herman Toivo ja Toivo. (Reuters wirephoto)



Two police officers inspect the site where Lubowski was shot dead. (Reuters wirephoto)

White Swapo official gunned down

White Wolves claim responsibility

WINDHOEK, Sept 13. (Agencies): Police began a widespread manhunt and offered a reward today for information about the assassination of Anton Lubowski, the only white to hold a leadership post in the Swapo independence movement.

A shadowy white supremacist group called the White Wolves claimed responsibility for the murder of Lubowski and threatened further assassinations, a newspaper editor said.

In threats made on the eve of the man-

home from exile of Sam Nujoma, leader of the South West Africa Peoples Organisation, Gwen Lister, editor of the Namibian, said she had already received two calls from a group calling itself the White Wolves, Afrikaners for White Wolves.

"Lubowski," a caller told Lister referring to the white Swapo leader who was gunned down yesterday, was number two, and you are number three.

Lubowski, 37, was shot in the head outside his home last night by an assailant

who drove away in a red sedan, inspector Kliebe du Ran said.

The killing came less than 48 hours before the scheduled homecoming of Nujoma, who has been in exile for 30 years. Swapo's election director Hage Geingob said today that Nujoma would return as planned tomorrow.

Geingob described Lubowski as a "brave young man, violently cut down at a time when we are talking about democratic elections."

South Africa, which has ruled Namibia for 74 years, has agreed to implement independence in the territory under UN supervision. Elections are set for early November.

Lubowski, a prominent human rights lawyer, announced in 1984 that he had joined the legal political wing of the South-West Africa People's Organisation, the black-dominated Namibian independence movement that waged a 23-year bush war against South African rule.

Thousands protest SA police brutality

Tutu leads march

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, Sept 13. (AP): More than 20,000 people joined Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Cape Town's mayor today for a march protesting police brutality after the government ordered police to allow the demonstration.

Marchers in rows of six set off from St. George's Anglican Cathedral along a major downtown street behind Tutu, Mayor Gordon Oliver and the Rev Allan Boesak, President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

It was one of the largest anti-government marches ever in South Africa and the only one in recent years to receive official authorisation.

"We have scored a great victory for justice and peace," Tutu told a crowd of white, black and mixed-race protesters who packed into City Hall after the march.

He said acting President F.W. de Klerk should have been present "to see what this country is going to become... a technicolor country."

No police units were in sight at the cathedral, a sharp contrast to protest marches two weeks ago in Cape Town that were broken up by riot squads using whips, batons and a water cannon that sprayed purple-dyed water.

As they marched Wednesday, the youths chanted freedom songs and waved banners that said, "Peace in our city" and "stop killing our people."

The parade ended at City Hall, where about 1,800 people jammed inside the building and about 20,000 others stood outside in a parking lot.

Tutu and other activists have denounced the use of force against peaceful protesters. They also have blamed police for the deaths of at least 23 people in Cape Town's black and mixed-race townships during violent protests of the Sept 6 parliamentary elections, which excluded blacks.

Police defended their actions and said only about 15 people died, most in violence unrelated to the election.

Protest demonstrations normally are outlawed in South Africa, and the Cape Town police commander, Maj. Gen. Phillipus Fourie, had vowed he would stop the march. However, Oliver, Cape Town's white mayor, said Wednesday he had appealed to the national government and received permission for the march.

The decision to grant approval was announced by De Klerk, who said he received assurances the protest would be peaceful. De Klerk said he hoped to persuade black leaders that he was sincere in wanting to negotiate a new constitution in which the now-voteless black majority would gain political rights.

"I hope tomorrow will prove that a new spirit can arise in our beautiful country, a spirit in which all Christians and all people who say that they believe in peace will reach out and really start talking to each other," De Klerk said Tuesday.

Meanwhile, a new session of parliament began at the parliamentary complex near St. George's. On Thursday, the national party-controlled electoral college is expected to elect De Klerk to a five-year term.



I swear

Twenty-one-year-old Gregory Flat yesterday became the second person in a week to break ranks with the South African police and reveal controversial operating methods. Flat here swears to the truth of his confession. (Reuters wirephoto)

Abysmal human rights record

UN chief concerned

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 13. (Agencies): The United Nations secretary-general gave the world a failing grade in human rights, citing torture, killings of demonstrators, disappearances, summary arrests and executions as some of the worst violations of the past year.

In his annual report issued yesterday, Javier Perez de Cuellar mentioned no country by name except for South Africa, whose system of apartheid was singled out for rebuke.

"The institutionalised system of racial discrimination in South Africa continues to be a most glaring example," he said.

But in other areas also, he said, 1988-89 had brought little relief.

"The gross mistreatment of ethnic groups, the systematic practice of torture, the killings of unarmed demonstrators, the disappearances of individuals, summary arrests and executions furnish a most deplorable record," he said.

The secretary-general called on governments to show some far-sightedness in trying to overcome political dissidence or ethnic unrest.

"The damage done to the self-confidence of its (a government's) people and to its international prestige may be ignored in the short-term but it will not be negligible over the long run," he said.

He recommended that foreign ministers of the 15-member Security Council meet periodically to consider peace and security in different regions in order to avert conflicts and defuse explosive situations.

The idea is not new but the secretary-general placed special emphasis on prevention of armed conflicts, as well as peacekeeping operations to control them.

His report outlined a strategy for the 1990s and touched on international hotspots, the international community's role in



Perez de Cuellar facing reporters after Namibia talks. (Reuters wirephoto)

reducing Third World debt, the struggles against drug trafficking, terrorism, degradation of the environment and the utilisation of technology.

However, he said the world is witnessing "the end of the era of sterile confrontations" between East and West, and in the past year the assistance of the United Nations is being sought as never before.

Perez de Cuellar said the major accomplishment of 1989 was implementation of a UN independence plan for Namibia, formerly South-West Africa. A UN peacekeeping and election-monitoring team is on the ground and movement toward independence "must be considered irreversible," he said.

Progress has been reported in settling the Western Sahara dispute, he said, but in Afghanistan, a UN-mediated settlement and a UN military observer team have failed to end the suffering of the Afghan people.

Maggie lauds Irish militia

BEELFAST, Sept 13. (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday praised a locally recruited army unit, sidestepping questions about earlier charges lodged a day earlier against two of its members.

Mrs Thatcher said she had confidence in the Ulster Defence Regiment which had "suffered greatly."

"I have just been looking at the figures — 179 UDR (members) have been murdered in the last 20 years. They are a very, very brave group of men," the prime minister said.

On Monday, two members of the regiment and a taxi driver were in court accused of killing Loughlin Maginn, 38, a Roman Catholic.

He allegedly was targeted after security documents identifying him as an IRA suspect were leaked to an outlawed Protestant group, the Ulster Freedom Fighters.

One of the two soldiers was also charged with the murder of another Catholic, Liam McKee, 36.

Thatcher told reporters the murder charges were "not a matter for me. If a person is charged, they are not guilty until they are found guilty by the courts. It would be the same for you and me. That is what freedom means."

The Ulster Defence Regiment is 97 per cent Protestant and more than half of its 6,500 members work part-time, mostly in rural areas of the Protestant-majority province along the border with the largely Catholic Irish Republic to the south.

During a full day of talks with businessmen, soldiers and police officers, Thatcher went to Lisnally army barracks in Omagh, in the centre of the province, where she met an eight-man patrol of the UDR.

As usual with visits by top British politicians to the province, it was not announced until after she arrived at a Royal Air Force base near Belfast.

Thatcher, accompanied by Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Brooke, rode a helicopter into the heart of the pre-republic village of Carrickmore, 12 miles (19 km) from Omagh, and saw the heavily protected police station which has been hit four times in IRA mortar attacks.

Barred from homes Turkey accuses Bulgaria

ANKARA, Sept 13. (Reuters): Turkey accused Bulgaria today of barring ethnic Turkish refugees who have chosen to return from reclaiming their former homes.

"We have information that the returning ethnic Turks are being forced to settle in different regions from those they had left," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Sungar.

"If true, this shows that the Bulgarians are continuing their policy of inhuman treatment of the ethnic Turks," he said.

Nearly 13,000 out of 312,000 ethnic Turks who have crossed into Turkey fleeing what they say is Sofia's forced campaign of cultural and religious assimilation, have opted to go back, most after fruitless efforts to find employment and homes.

The flood of refugees slowed to a trickle after Ankara imposed visa restrictions for Bulgarian citizens on August 22.

Sofia has so far refused Turkey's calls for a pact to protect the property of the refugees and

secure the rights of those remain, saying the refugees are Bulgarian Muslims travelling to Turkey on tourist visas.

Turkey today welcomed a proposal by the Bush administration to send \$10 million in aid for the 300,000 ethnic Turks who crossed over from Bulgaria to escape repression, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

President Bush has proposed sending \$10 million in aid to Turkey as assistance for the Bulgarian ethnic Turkish refugees, and is awaiting congressional approval.

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Sungar said Ankara had not requested the assistance but welcomed it as a gesture of goodwill from Washington.

In August, Turkey imposed visa restrictions on the ethnic Turks, and the flow has since dwindled from several thousand a day to 2,110 in three weeks, after the latest arrivals received visas from Turkish consulates in Bulgaria.

Jakarta asks scribes to limit reporting of Muslim activists' trial

JAKARTA, Sept 13. (AP): Indonesian journalists have been asked to restrain their reporting of the forthcoming trial of five Muslim activists charged with subversion, the newspaper Kompas said yesterday.

"The press should be more responsive to anything that could harm national stability," the paper quoted R. Soemarto, head of the local prosecutor's office, as saying.

Soemarto said the trial, starting later this month in Lampung in southern Sumatra, would be open to the public but not all that happens in court should be written.

"Attention should be paid to what should not be written because that involves national stability," he added.

The five are being tried in connection with clashes at the hamlet of Talanghari in February against security forces sent to

overpower a group calling themselves Komando Mujaheddin Fisabilillah, or Holy Warriors of God.

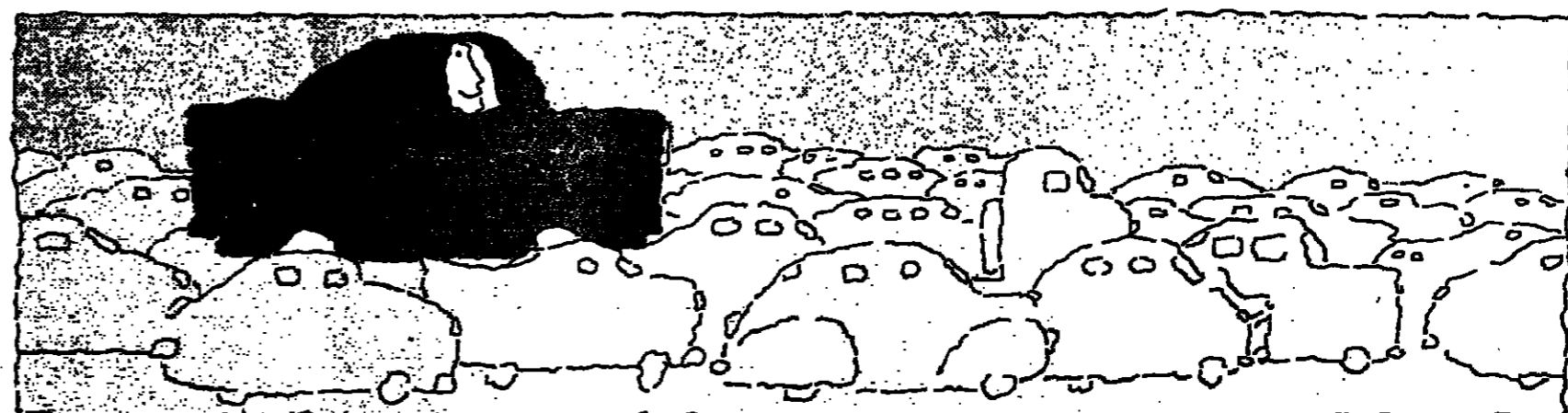
Official reports say 32 people died in the clashes.

Nine other people also are to be tried later this month on similar charges.

In March, there were reports of clashes between Hindus and Muslims in the Dompur district on the island of Sumbawa

in the province of West Nusa Tenggara, east of Bali. Authorities have released few details, but Gen. Rudini, minister of home affairs, issued a statement alleging that there were forces engaged in stirring up communal tensions and announcing that security forces had arrested 45 people.

Rudini and Gen. Try Sutrisno, the armed forces commander, implicated members of the Talanghari group in the Dompur incident.



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IRA mastermind dies

DUBLIN, Sept 13. (Reuters): Seamus Twomey, a founder of the modern IRA and mastermind of its deadly car-bomb campaign in Belfast, has died in a Dublin hospital at the age of 70.

Twomey, the former manager of a bookmaker's shop, was a founder member of the breakaway provisional Irish Republican Army, set up after Northern Ireland troubles flared in 1969.

Twice the IRA's chief of staff, he was arrested in the Irish Republic in 1973 but escaped in a dramatic helicopter airlift from Dublin's Mountjoy Prison.

As head of the guerrilla group's Belfast Battalion in 1972, he flew to London for controversial ceasefire talks with the British government.

TPA may cut sudden heart attack deaths

NEW YORK, Sept 13. (Reuters): A clot-dissolving drug used to treat heart attack victims appears to reduce the risk of sudden death from irregular heartbeats by restoring electrical stability to the heart, researchers said in a new study.

In the first year after a heart attack, five to 15 per cent of patients die suddenly due to fast, abnormal heartbeats called ventricular fibrillation that cause the heart to pump less blood. If the regular heartbeat is not restored within a few minutes, death can occur.

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States.

Previous studies have shown that clot-dissolving drugs can reduce the number of sudden deaths after attacks.

In the new study, reported in the current issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, a group of Los Angeles researchers found that patients treated with Tissue Plasminogen Activator (TPA), a new clot-dissolving drug, had fewer abnormal electrical currents in the lower heart chamber than conventionally treated heart attack patients.

The researchers from Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Medicine also found that fewer patients in the TPA-treated group had died six months after treatment.

"Thrombolytic (TPA) therapy appears to be very beneficial to the electrical stability to the heart," said Eli Gang, a heart specialist at Cedars-Sinai.

Polish official union defiant

WARSAW, Sept 13, (Agencies): The head of the communist-run trade unions today warned the new government of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki that his membership will reject a call for more sacrifices to set Poland on the path to economic stability.

"No trade union could be neutral to unemployment, to the sale of national property," OPZZ chairman Alfred Miodowicz said at a news conference.

Mazowiecki's government was confirmed yesterday in an overwhelming vote by the lower house of parliament or Sejm.

Miodowicz, whose unions claim 6.6 million members, said the union is concerned with the reference in Mazowiecki's Sejm speech of a further drop in the standard of living.

During his speech yesterday, Mazowiecki had said he was aware that the increased social unrest caused by the drop in living standards "will no doubt put the trade union movement in a difficult situation," but called on the union to support the reforms.

The new Solidarity administration, however, received enthusiastic support from a variety of other groups today, both within and outside of Poland.

In the southeastern province of Katowice, 54 police officers expressed their loyalty to Mazowiecki in an open letter.

The group suggested complete separation of the police from the security service and depoliticisation of the militia "which would allow people of various views and beliefs to work in the profession," the official news agency Pap said.

The government newspaper Zycie Warszawy called Mazowiecki's political and economic reform programme, as generally outlined in his speech, "is unprecedented and meets the aspirations and strivings of all the political forces existing at this moment, and of broad circles of society."

Cabinet ministers of the East bloc's first non-communist-led government moved into their new offices today and geared up to attack Poland's dire economic problems.

Members of the Council of Ministers, as the cabinet is known, met with communist President Wojciech Jaruzelski and planned to hold their first cabinet meeting later in the day.

Jaruzelski told the ministers they already had their agenda. It was contained, he said, in the speech Mazowiecki made to parliament yesterday before it overwhelmingly approved the coalition cabinet by a 402-0 vote, with 13 abstentions.

Mazowiecki called for reforming the police and justice system, liberalising laws on associations, gatherings and censorship, writing a new democratic constitution, removal political and ideological barriers to promotion, giving universities full autonomy and battling "catastrophic" environmental pollution.

Warning UK faces disasters

LONDON, Sept 13, (KUNA): The United Kingdom faces at least two, and possibly four, disasters each year in which up to 100 people will be killed each time, according to a warning here.

Every three or four years there will also be a major incident that will kill at least 100 people and perhaps as many as 1,000, the inaugural conference of the Disaster Prevention and Limitation Unit was told.

The unit based at Bradford University, northern England, has been set up to harness initiatives to predict and avoid disasters, and improve responses to them.

The experts involved in the research studied disasters in Europe and the United Kingdom over the 100 years from 1883 to 1983, the British media reported.

During that time 400,000 people lost their lives in European disasters, 31,500 of them in the United Kingdom alone.



Two archaeologists pick through a mass grave that was discovered recently. (Reuter wirephoto)

300,000 Stalin victims in a grave

MOSCOW, Sept 13, (Reuter): Up to 300,000 people killed by Stalin's security police in the 1930s are buried in an abandoned gold mine near Chelyabinsk in the southern Ural Mountains, Soviet television said yesterday.

The grave was one of the biggest to be publicised since the Memorial Movement, which commemorates purge victims, began pressing Soviet authorities last year to investigate repression under the late dictator.

The television report said a ceremony was held last weekend to remember the victims and give a proper burial to 350 of them whose skeletons had been found in the past year.

It showed human rights activist Andrei Sakharov, a member of Memorial, addressing the service on a hillside.

"This place was once called Golden mountain ... men, women, the elderly and even children were brought here at nightfall and shot down," the television commentator said.

"There is no telling how many people were massacred but some estimates say up to 300,000," he added. The report showed skulls, with bullet holes.

Mass graves have been found near Kiev, where Memorial estimates up to 240,000 people are buried, and in a forest near Minsk

where some accounts say 150,000 people were killed by Stalin's police.

Secret mass graves have been found in Moscow cemeteries.

Josef Stalin ruled the Soviet Union from the early 1920s until his death in 1953. From the early 1930s, waves of arrests swept the country, with thousands of people summarily tried and executed.

Before Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev launched a review of Stalin's role, he was hailed as a hero and executions of innocent people were written off as "errors."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Catalan separatists threaten: Separatist guerrillas of Spain's Catalonia region vowed today to attack the Barcelona 1992 Olympic Games and claimed responsibility for a bomb which seriously injured two civil guards on Monday.

The separatists, fighting for the independence of their wealthy northeastern region from Spain, oppose the Olympics which they say will be more Spanish than Catalan.

The group said it planted a bomb in a car park next to civil guard barracks in Banolas, north of Barcelona. Two guardsmen who picked it up are still in hospital, one of them with his right hand amputated. (Reuter)

Forge a coalition: Conservative party leaders said yesterday they would consider trying to form a coalition government following parliamentary elections that produced gains for the far left and right but no clear majority in parliament.

Analysis, however, said it was likely the conservatives would be unable to forge a coalition and that Prime Minister G. H. D. Brundland's minority Labour government would stay in power by default — despite Labour's worst showing since 1945 elections. (UPI)

Senate approves: A US Senate subcommittee approved a \$288.2-billion military spending bill yesterday that slashes funds for the problem-plagued Trident 2 missile. But the bill leaves most of President George Bush's strategic programmes relatively intact.

Included in the measure, approved without dissent, is just more than \$1 billion to help finance the war on drugs — eight times what Bush had asked for in the military appropriations bill.

On the Trident 2, the Senate appropriations defence subcommittee eliminated Bush's fiscal 1990 request of \$1.6 billion for missile purchases in the fiscal year that begins Oct 1 and \$216 million for purchases further down the road. (AP)

Commercial sponsors sought: The honour guards who escort the Netherlands' Queen Beatrix to the opening of parliament each year are seeking commercial sponsors.

Budget cuts have left police unable to foot the 100,000-guilder (\$50,000) bill for providing 70 mounted guards, their special uniforms and their horses.

"Don't worry. The horses won't be carrying signs with the name of the sponsor," a Dutch police spokesman said on state television. (Reuter)

Boeing pays fine: In a negotiated settlement with the Federal Aviation Administration, Boeing Commercial Airplanes was fined \$200,000 and has agreed to report "in a timely manner" safety defects it learns about in Boeing aircraft.

"It is the largest fine ever paid at one time by an (airplane) manufacturer," said FAA spokesman Dave Duff.

The FAA agreed to consolidate quality control cases concerning misrouting on Boeing 737, 747, 757 and 767 aircraft, and said it would take no further legal action in the case.

Boeing said yesterday in a statement it has improved its reporting practices "to provide tighter control and had increased discipline in Boeing-FAA communications." (AP)

Rats warning: Workers on the London underground have been warned to wear masks to protect themselves from Weil's disease, which is carried by rats in their urine and can be fatal, it was reported here today.

A staff memo by the network comes as the rat population in the underground has risen 30 per cent in the warm weather this year.

The warning followed tests showing that sludge from the central line platform at a very busy station, Liverpool Street, was "heavily contaminated with bacteria" which can cause the disease.

An underground spokesman was quoted today by the British media as saying there was no risk to around three million commuters who use the system every day. (KUNA)

Europe tops Flights delayed

BRUSSELS, Sept 13, (AP): Flight delays in Europe reached a record high in the first seven months of 1989 with one in four flights delayed by more than 15 minutes, the Association of European Airlines reported today.

The 21-member AEA said that six per cent more flights were delayed in the first seven months of 1989 than in the corresponding year-earlier period.

In July, 28.6 per cent of international short and medium-haul departures were more than 15 minutes late, the AEA said.

The association said that the figures supported its demand for a unified air traffic control system cost as much as the single US system which handles three times more flights.

Despite longer delays, growth in European passenger traffic was modest in July. It rose 7.5 per cent from the corresponding year earlier month, in line with the 6 to 9 per cent growth range in passenger traffic over the past 12 months, the AEA said.

Long-haul passenger traffic rose by 4 per cent in July from the year-earlier month, with 2.6 per cent growth recorded on North American routes. These routes accounted for half the volume of long-haul passenger traffic in July, AEA said.

Historic showdown: British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her Commonwealth partners are being forced into an "historic showdown" over choosing a new secretary-general, according to a report here today.

They will have to vote on the appointment for the first time in the Commonwealth's long history at the summit in Malaysia next month, the Daily Mail newspaper said in an exclusive story.

It will be a straight contest between a Nigerian chief, Emeke Anyaoku, 56-year-old current deputy secretary-general, and former Australian Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, 59. (KUNA)



Burning protest

A Salvadorean government commission and left-wing rebel leaders gathered in Mexico City today to begin peace talks which Salvadoreans hope will end a decade of civil war.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) rebels said their guns would fall silent during the day as part of a unilateral ceasefire offered by the guerrillas.

The talks, expected to last two days, are the first since Alfredo Cristiani, of the right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) Party, became state president of the central American nation on June 1.

Picture shows a Salvadorean soldier running from a burning bus Sept 12 in downtown El Salvador. The bus was burned by participants in a march called to protest kidnappings. (Reuter wirephoto)

East and West can fight drugs together

MOSCOW, Sept 13, (Reuter): KGB chief Vladimir Kryuchkov has predicted an increase in co-operation between the intelligence services of East-West in the fight against terrorism and the international narcotics trade.

Kryuchkov, just under a year in his post, was speaking in a filmed interview shown to Soviet and foreign journalists in Moscow today after the press premiere of a documentary aimed at proving his organisation was undergoing reform.

"There is no secret service in any country throughout the world that is not interested in co-operation today," the short, solidly-built KGB head told his Soviet interviewer. "To defend universal human values, they have to work together."

"We are for co-operation and contacts ... there are certain crimes that go beyond state borders and to deal with them effectively we have to work closely together."

"In the Soviet Union we cannot cope with some of these and I don't think the United States can either, working on its own."

"What I have in mind is terrorism, smuggling and the narcotics trade, which is the scourge of humanity and is now affecting the Soviet Union as well," Kryuchkov told the interviewer, from the semi-official Novosti Press Agency.

"In all these fields, I believe, secret services can co-operate. In fact, they have started already and there are specific examples," said Kryuchkov, a KGB career officer who has publicly backed President Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms.

At a news conference following the showing of the two films, KGB press officer and former agent Igor Pirela said there were many signs of Western readiness to work with his organisation "when it is in our joint interests."

The news conference was the first of its type although the KGB has increasingly emerged onto the public scene under Gorbachev's "glasnost" (openness) policies.

Many members of organisations opposing the domination of the Communist Party say that although they are no longer routinely persecuted as were dissenters in the past, they are still watched and sometimes harassed by the KGB.

He also blamed fiction writers who portray secret agents "as villains, dupes or traitors," adding: "Can we wonder that young people do not flock to enlist in such ranks?"

M15's job is to catch terrorists, subversives and spies operating in Britain. There has been no suggestion that its sister agency, M16, which runs overseas intelligence, will also open its doors.

However, most spy-watchers believe that Britain will eventually step into line with its major English-speaking intelligence partners, the United States, Australia and Canada.

Border will stay open: Hungary

Refugees could top 15,000

BERLIN, Sept 13, (Agencies): Hungary said today it would break its Warsaw Pact commitment and keep open its borders to the West, while an East German newspaper said it was time to ask why skilled citizens were fleeing the communist country.

In Austria, the Interior Ministry said 12,158 East Germans had passed through that country en route to West Germany in the two days that refugees have been taking advantage of Hungary's newly opened border.

"The Hungarian government's policy of opening the country's borders will continue," Ferenc Somogyi, the No. 2 official in the Foreign Ministry, said in Budapest.

As long as a third country is willing to accept refugees from other East bloc countries, Hungary will allow them to leave, he said.

"There are agreements with other Warsaw treaty countries similar to the one Hungary just suspended with East Germany, and these agreements are no longer in line with Hungary's newly assumed international responsibilities, such as our having signed the Geneva convention," Somogyi said.

"We are working to bring these various agreements into harmony with (our) new foreign policy," he added.

Somogyi said the border policy was consistent with Hungary's status as a signatory of the UN convention on refugees. Hungary is the only West bloc country to sign that convention.

But he said the current, orchestrated migration was a "unique step" that applied only to East German citizens.

"The East Germans were not treated as refugees and they did not request asylum as refugees," said Somogyi. East Germans are automatically considered citizens of West Germany.

Meanwhile, East Germany's Communist Party youth daily Junge Welt said East German citizens no longer could avoid discussing why a "minority" has fled the country of 16.6 million people.

"How do we make this country indisputably the focal point for dedication and happiness for every individual? How do we make it a homeland for even more people in which one accepts burdens and from which one is not lured away just by shop windows full of bananas or glossy travel guides?" Junge Welt asked.

The newspaper often contains important articles and commentaries reflecting official views.

Recent East German arrivals to the West have said they were dissatisfied with the economic situation and political oppression in their country. The arrivals, many of whom are young, skilled craftsmen, complain that East Germany has failed to adopt political and economic reforms.

East Germany's Communist Party daily, Neues Deutschland, today continued to lash out at West Germany, which it said "lured the refugees West."

Refugees have travelled by car, train and bus through Austria to West Germany since midnight Sunday, when Hungary opened its border completely.

West German border officials said the number of refugees could top 15,000.

West Germany and Hungary have worked together to coordinate free passage for the East Germans, adding to the strain in relations between those countries and East Germany. It is the first time an East bloc nation has assisted in an exodus to the West of citizens of a Warsaw Pact ally.

On Tuesday, Yegor Ligachev, a hard-line member of the Soviet Union's Politburo, arrived in East Berlin and accused West Germany of "slander, enticement and luring away" East Germans.

East German leader Erich Honecker's prolonged recovery from gall bladder surgery has complicated the situation. Communist Party officials acknowledge that decision-making in East Berlin is virtually paralysed.

East Germany's state-run news agency, ADN, said yesterday the government issued a formal protest to Hungary for its decision to suspend parts of bilateral agreements on border controls, ADN said.

About 300 East Germans occupying West Germany's embassy in Prague have abandoned their bid to reach the West and left the mission, but as many as 180 more remained today, Western diplomatic sources said.

An armed border guard from East Germany fled across the heavily fortified frontier with West Germany, police said today.



Two East German refugee children take a snack on the steps of the Red Cross coach which brought them from Hungary to Austria, on their way to West Germany. (Reuter wirephoto)

Yeltsin predicts

Soviet restraint

CHICAGO, Sept 13, (Reuter): Soviet politician Boris Yeltsin has predicted on a US tour that Moscow will pass a new law to ban military aggression of domestic uprisings.

Yeltsin, who has sharply criticised the pace of President Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms, also said negotiations were underway in the Soviet Union to cut Army numbers.

He told a news conference late yesterday that legislation preventing deployment of troops against civilian protesters was "very likely."

Yeltsin said the military should be forbidden from quashing any nationalist demonstrations in the restless Baltic states of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia. That would constitute "a crime against the people of the USSR," he said.

Soviet authorities have deployed troops in several regions to curb a wave of ethnic unrest.

In April, 20 people were killed when interior ministry troops used shovels and poison gas to break up a peaceful nationalist demonstration in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.

Yeltsin, who met President George Bush in Washington on yesterday, said Gorbachev's new policy of openness was under attack in his country.

"Glasnost has been rolling back for the last two months," the radical parliamentarian said in a speech in Chicago late yesterday.

Yeltsin, who held a news conference after the speech, also predicted that German reunification would take at least a decade and said it was "significant" that Kremlin hardliner Yegor Ligachev was visiting East Berlin after more than 12,000 citizens fled to West Germany via Hungary.

At his meeting with Bush, Yeltsin asked for help in saving perestroika (restructuring).

The hastily-arranged meeting had worried White House aides, who feared too warm a reception for Yeltsin could be construed as interference in Soviet domestic affairs.

US bid to accept 50,000 Soviets

WASHINGTON, Sept 13, (AP): The US government told Congress today it wants to accept 50,000 Soviet refugees and an additional 6,500 from Eastern Europe in the fiscal year that begins Oct 1.

Overall, 125,000 refugees would be admitted, an increase of almost eight per cent over current quotas, said Jewel S. Lafontant, the US co-ordinator for refugee affairs.

The 50,000 Soviet refugees, at least half of whom are expected to be Jews, would be a fraction of the 250,000 Soviet citizens the State Department estimated last week would apply for entry in fiscal 1990.

Lafontant, testifying before the House of Representatives judiciary subcommittee on immigration, said 40,000 of the

50,000 Soviet refugees would be assisted by the US government in paying their transportation and settlement costs. The 10,000 others would depend on private organisations, friends and relatives.

Beyond the refugee programme, other would-be immigrants can apply for admission under a separate so-called parole programme which carries no financial assistance.

The current combined quota for refugees from the Soviet Union and eastern Europe is 50,000. The new plan would allocate all 50,000 slots to the Soviet Union to deal with an unprecedented outflow under President Mikhail Gorbachev, and set up a separate category of 6,500 for Eastern Europe, mostly from Poland and Hungary.

British intelligence plans to lift its blanket of secrecy

LONDON, Sept 13, (AP): British intelligence, burnished by spy fiction but tarnished by real-life traitors, is reportedly planning to lift its blanket of secrecy.

If newspaper reports are to be believed, the security service known as M15 is about to go so far down the road of disclosure as to tell the public who its boss is.

It might not sound like much in an age when the head of the KGB appears on television and assures legislators he's no longer bugging their homes.

But it would be a revolution for M15, whose very

existence wasn't even officially enshrined in law until this year. And according to the newspapers, that's not all — M15 reportedly wants to advertise openly for intelligence officers, be listed in the phone book and have its director-general comment on public issues.

The government's response to the reports has been reserved.

"We never comment on such matters," said a spokesman for the Home Office, the department in charge of M15, when asked about the front-page report in The Independent newspaper last week.

Nevertheless The Independent's disclosures have triggered lively debate.

The Guardian suggested an M15 job ad: "Wanted: Intelligent men and women to work for the security service, commonly known as M15. Under new management, M15 is an equal opportunity employer."

Robert Cecil, a veteran diplomat who was attached to British intelligence in World War II, wrote in The Independent that the security services' recruiting problems stemmed from politicians and journalists "who persistently denigrate the secret services."

Experts warn of global warming

TOKYO, Sept 13, (AP) Environmental experts warned today that all nations must sharply reduce their production of polluting gases to avoid the possibility of disastrous global climatic changes.

About 60 international scientists and environmental officials said people in developed nations will have to limit their consumption of fossil fuels, while poorer countries should be given more economic aid to allow them to pursue more environmentally sound development policies.

The experts, attending an international conference on the global environment, said rising temperatures are likely to affect virtually every aspect of human life, including food, farming, health and living conditions.

"During the coming decades, everyone, everywhere will begin to experience the effects of these major historical shifts in climate," they said in a statement at the end of the three-day meeting.

Participants said world temperatures have begun to climb because of a build-up of gases in the atmosphere that trap the earth's heat, called the "greenhouse effect." The gases, a byproduct of the burning of fossil fuels and agricultural and industrial processes, are produced by all nations.

"Of all the environmental challenges mankind has confronted in the course of history, none had been as world-wide as this challenge of greenhouse warming," they said.

The experts urged developed countries to improve energy conservation and find alternatives to fossil fuels such as coal and oil. They also called on wealthy nations to provide large amounts of additional aid to developing countries where the environment has been damaged by poverty and high population growth.

Because of economic pressures, many poorer countries have been forced to depend on polluting fuels and farming processes, and have earned foreign exchange by cutting down rain forests that serve to absorb climatic changes. Scientists warn that global temperatures are likely to increase by 1.5-4.5 degrees C (3-8 F) over the next century if current emissions of greenhouse gases continue.

That could scorch some areas, making them unfit for agriculture, and melt polar ice, causing ocean levels to rise by 0.5-2.0 metres (1.5-6.5 feet) — enough to flood many coastal areas, they say.

"We believe it is possible to prevent mankind from falling into a very serious situation in the future if countries co-operate in responding together," said Saburo Okita, a former Japanese foreign minister and chairman of the conference.

"A sustainable future beyond the 20th century will require a new commitment to environmental ethics by all nations — enabling people in developing countries to meet their basic needs, and modifying socio-economic activities including life styles in developed countries," the experts said.

Participants in the Japanese government-sponsored conference also called for research on new technology to slow global warming, and a treaty to encourage international co-operation towards that goal.

Two American leaders in agriculture and foreign affairs proposed legislation yesterday to fight global warming caused by the greenhouse effect by planting more trees and aiding developing nations.

The \$470 million programme would encourage tree planting on farmland, establish and assist urban tree-planting programmes, and help developing countries preserve their forests and find alternative energy sources.

The world-wide fund for nature launched a major initiative this week to save tropical forests, urging the European Economic Community to rethink its timber strategy.

The WWF's report was aimed at the EEC because the 12-nation trade bloc is the largest consumer of tropical hardwood, importing more than one-third of the world's annual production.



Let's get blessed

Prince Aya, second son of Japan's Emperor Akihito, leaves his home, Akasaka Palace, with his fiancée Kiko Kawashima, to the Imperial Palace to receive an approval for their wedding. (Reuter wire-photo)

10 monks sentenced in Tibet

Charges of rioting and spying

BEIJING, Sept 13, (AP) Tibetan courts have sentenced 10 Buddhist monks and others to terms of up to 10 years for rioting and spying for the Dalai Lama during an anti-Chinese uprising in March, the official Xinhua news agency said today.

The intermediate court in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa sentenced Passang to life imprisonment for "beating, smashing, looting and burning" during the three-day disturbance in which 16 people were killed by official count. Tibetans said between 20 and 30 died.

Xinhua said Cering Ngoizhu, 57, was given a 12-year prison term for inciting young people to sing Tibetan independence songs and participate in the disturbances.

It said three men were convicted of spying for the "Dalai Lama clique," a reference to supporters of Tibet's former spiritual leader who fled to India with the Dalai Lama following a failed uprising against the Chinese army in 1959.

One man, Ngoizhu, was sentenced to 11 years for spying, and two others, both former lamas or monks in Lhasa, were given five-year terms for collecting information about the march uprising for the Dalai Lama.

Two other monks were sent to prison for four and three years for hanging the banned Tibetan flag in their monastery and shouting reactionary slogans during the demonstrations.

Sarah heads for China

TAIPEI, Taiwan, Sept 13, (AP) Typhoon Sarah, downgraded to a tropical storm, headed for eastern China today after leaving at least 19 people dead and 11 others missing in Taiwan.

Rescuers, battling high waves, boarded the wrecked Panamanian freighter Lung Hao today and, in a cabin, found the body of a crew member identified as 32-year-old Ali Demirci of Turkey. Two other Turkish and two Indonesian crewmen were listed as missing.

The freighter broke in half on Monday after strong winds drove it away from Hualien harbour, 180 kilometres (120 miles) southeast of Taipei. Twenty-one other sailors swam to shore.

A man died of a heart attack today when he was rescued from his flooded house, a motorcyclist was killed in a fall into a ditch, and a boy drowned playing in a flooded river, police said.

Most other victims were swept out to sea or drowned in rain-swollen rivers when the storm blasted across the island on Monday and Tuesday, police said.

Thirty killed as wall collapses

BEIJING, Sept 13, (AP) Thirty students were killed and another 25 injured when a wall collapsed while the students were watching a show outside their school in China's coastal Fujian province.

The official Xinhua news agency said today the disaster occurred on Sunday evening at the No. 1 Middle School in Liancheng county, where about 4,000 people had gathered for activities marking the school's 75th anniversary.

Speed up loans, Japan urged

Promises but delays

TOKYO, Sept 13, (AP) A government agency called yesterday for improving the way Japan dispenses billions of dollars of foreign aid to the Third World.

The Management and Co-ordination Agency urged the improvements in a report examining official development aid loans made available between April and December last year.

Among other things, it called for speedier screening of aid requests from developing countries.

"On some occasions, yen loans were provided some three years after aid requests were made," the report said.

The report was sent to the foreign ministry, the finance ministry, the international trade and industry ministry and the economic planning agency. The four ministries are responsible for co-ordination and implementation of Japan's aid programmes.

Japan has become the world's largest donor of foreign aid, overtaking the United States, by promising more than \$50 billion in aid in the five-year period ending in 1992.

While the United States, for decades the largest donor, has cut its aid budget, Japan's ODA has risen dramatically, from

\$7.45 billion in 1987 to an estimated \$10.95 billion in fiscal 1989, which ends next March 31.

Yen loans, the report also said, lack medium- and long-term perspective. The ministries concerned should draw up more long-term aid programmes, country by country, through discussions and co-ordination with recipient countries, it added.

Critics abroad, including the Paris-based Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development, have said Japan's projects should be more cost-effective and avoid disrupting local communities.

President George Bush's administration has decided against massive foreign aid tied to sales of American goods, like programmes for Japan, France and others, Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady told congress.

Some US groups, notably the National Association of Manufacturers, have been pressing for more emphasis in foreign aid on the interests of US exporters.

"Given the other options at our disposal for responding to the problem, as well as current budgetary constraints, the administration had decided not to seek new resources for a separate tied aid credit programme at this time," Brady wrote.

Uranium gang leader arrested

TOKYO, Sept 13, (AP) Police today arrested the alleged instigator of a still-unexplained effort to sell uranium to the US Embassy in Tokyo, officials said.

This brought to nine the number of arrests in the case. Japanese law allows only authorised people to handle uranium.

Investigators still have not learned where the group obtained the uranium or why it tried to sell it to the embassy for more than 2,000 times its market price of 1,400 yen (\$9.60) for 0.035 grams (\$275 an ounce), said an official of the Tokyo metropolitan

police department.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, identified the last of those arrested as Kouki Tomoda, 51, an antique art dealer and former underworld gang member from Yamatotakada in Nara prefecture, southwestern Japan.

Tomoda, arrested at a Tokyo hotel, had been on a wanted list since Sunday, when police seized about 4 kilograms (8.8 pounds) of uranium from an acquaintance of his in Kurume, Fukuoka prefec-

ture, 899 kilometres (562 miles) southwest of Tokyo.

The acquaintance, identified as Masateru Yuwaku, 41, also has been arrested, the official said.

He said Tomoda was suspected of having sold a capsule containing 101.75 grams (3.6 ounces) of refined natural uranium to Masao Kikuchi, 54, for 8 million yen (\$55,100) in late June. Kikuchi also is among those arrested.

Wanted dissident flees to France

HONG KONG, Sept 13, (Reuter) One of China's seven most-wanted dissident intellectuals, Su Xiaokang, left Hong Kong for Paris today after three months on the run from Chinese police.

"I hid out in villages, in forests and in the mountains," Su said in an interview at a secret Hong Kong address before his departure. "For three months I lived in fear of arrest by the security forces."

Su, who escaped to the British colony ten days ago, was the author of a controversial Chinese television series "River Elegy," which questioned the system of government and attacked China's ancient culture and traditions.

One of seven prominent dissident intellectuals for whom arrest warrants were issued after troops brutally crushed the pro-democracy movement in Beijing in early June, Su said many of his friends — including a co-writer of the mini-series — had been arrested.

"Police contacted almost every person I have ever met, they searched every house or unit where I had contacts. They combed the whole country for me," said Su, who is in his 40s. He was earlier reported to have been arrested.

The writer and Beijing Broadcasting College professor said he had not seen his wife or young son since he fled his Beijing home on May 20, the day martial law was declared in the capital.

He said he slowly made his way south toward Guangdong province, which borders Hong Kong, in hopes of escaping the country after learning of the military crackdown and of the arrest warrant out for him.

"I have the ordinary people to thank for my escape," said Su, describing how people all over the country hid him from China's pervasive security apparatus. "I can't say any more since the police will take revenge on anyone who helped me."

Su obtained travel papers from the French embassy yesterday, like other Chinese dissidents before him. Hong Kong authorities have declined to help Chinese political refugees, regarding those who have escaped by the "underground railroad" from the mainland as ordinary illegal immigrants.

Prominent Chinese author Lao Gui, famed for writing a candid bestseller on the chaotic 1966-76 cultural revolution, escaped via the same route last month and left for Paris last week. Several lesser known fugitives are still in hiding in Hong Kong awaiting travel documents.

Su is the fourth of the seven wanted intellectuals to escape along the secret underground route. Yan Jiaqi — once adviser to ousted Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang — computer entrepreneur Wan Runnan and Chen Yizhi, head of the party's economic restructuring research institute, are all in the West.

The three others are still on the run in China. Su said he learned by listening to the US government-funded Voice of America radio station — with the volume very low — that several of his friends had escaped. "That news gave me hope."

Chinese authorities have closed several of the escape routes to Hong Kong and organisers admitted the getaways were becoming increasingly difficult and dangerous.

Chinese student leader Wuertkai, speaking at a candlelit ceremony marking the 100th day since the Tiananmen Square killings, yesterday pledged to continue the struggle to bring democracy to China.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crime on the rise: Violence and sexual offences in the UK increased during the year to the end of June despite an overall fall in crime, according to figures published today.

A total of 3.7 million offences were recorded in England and Wales in the 12-month period, a decrease of 4 per cent of the previous 12-months.

There were wide variations in the figures for different offences. Offences of violence against the person increased by 7,000 (up 11 per cent) and sexual offences rose by 1,300 (up 5 per cent). (Kuna)

Trawler dragged backwards: A British submarine dragged an Irish trawler back wards for a mile in the Irish Sea after the fishermen caught its communications buoy in their nets, trawlermen said today.

The trawler contest was not damaged and its three crewmen were unhurt but the incident last night provoked an angry response from a spokesman for the Irish Fishermen's Organisation.

In London, a British Ministry of defence spokesman said: "It has been confirmed that the large object caught by the trawler was from a British submarine." (Reuter)

AIDS treatment: Tracking AIDS patients' white blood cell counts may help researchers cut down on the time needed to evaluate experimental AIDS drugs, a group of scientists and US officials said yesterday.

The count in the blood of a particular type of disease-fighting white blood cell — known as CD4 or T4 cells — appears to correlate well with an AIDS patient's chances for survival, the scientists and officials agreed.

Sexologist warns

Beware of 'lovers'

ROME, Sept 13, (Reuter) A sexologist who last year gave lessons in the art of seduction to Italy's Latin lovers is now telling female tourists how to fend them off.

Naples-born Giuseppe Cirillo said today he had sent pamphlets to tourist agencies in popular Italian sunspots like Rimini and Sorrento to be passed on to foreign females.

"With women from his own country, the Italian male is romantic. With tourists he is down-to-earth, much less inhibited and tends to see relationships as purely sexual," Cirillo told journalists.

Cirillo, who taught a 14-lesson course in Rome and Milan in 1988, said he will soon fly to New York, San Francisco and Miami to publicize his new courses in seduction for the American male.

Faculty shortages: American colleges and universities face a major shortage of faculty members starting in the next several years, according to a study released today.

According to the study, the biggest shortfalls will occur not in the sciences but in the humanities and social sciences, and that the shortage will be caused mainly by growth in student enrollments and not by large-scale retirements of professors.

The study was conducted by Brown, former president of Princeton University, who is now president of the Andrew Mellon Foundation, and Julie Ann Sosa, a Princeton graduate now studying at Oxford University. (Kuna)

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What killed dinosaurs: scientists search for evidence

GUBBIO, Italy, Sept 13, (Agencies) Scientists began to chase away from the Umbrian Hills yesterday in search of fossil evidence they hope could resolve a debate over what caused the mass extinction of dinosaurs 65 million years ago.

One theory contends the dinosaurs were wiped out by a meteorite that struck the earth, drastically changing its weather patterns. The other theory holds that volcanic eruptions caused the climate changes that killed the giant beasts.

Dr Walter Alvarez of the University of California at Berkeley and Dr Gary Johnson of

Dartmouth College head two teams of American and Italian scientists gathering evidence to support their theories.

Both groups hope to confirm research and data collected in the area previously during independent digs. This time Dr Robert N. Ginsburg from the University of Miami is supervising the research that will send the samples gathered by the two teams to 12 different labs in the United States, Soviet Union, Canada, Switzerland and France for analysis.

The results of the joint effort are expected to be presented next spring.

Alvarez and his late father, the Nobel prize winning physicist Dr Luis W. Alvarez, discovered a half-inch thick layer of clay in the Umbrian Apennines near Gubbio. The clay was found to have a high concentration of iridium, an extremely rare metal mostly found in meteorites.

The scientists said the clay dated to near the time of the mass extinctions 65 million years ago.

Based on these and other findings, Alvarez proposed the theory that a meteorite, half-a-mile (800 metres) in diameter, struck the earth.

He said the impact caused global wildfires and a cloud of fine dust that blocked out the sun's rays, dropping temperatures and stunting plant growth essential to the food chain.

The dinosaurs, according to the theory, along with numerous other plants and animals would have died in a short time in a dark and frozen world.

The Dartmouth theory contends erupting volcanoes caused a greenhouse effect where entrapped solar heat raised temperatures, sea levels, caused acid rain and ozone depletion that gradually, over hundreds of thousands of years, caused the mass extinctions.

Telephones being monitored for nuisance calls

Indecent callers face imprisonment

THE assistant undersecretary for subscriber services at the Ministry of Communications Khaled Al Houti has said that the number of telephone lines marked for involvement in nuisance calls during the period of one month was 348, and that the lines were therefore disconnected following continued complaints by a number of subscribers and requests to have their lines monitored for harassment calls.

He told a local daily that the Telephone Surveillance Department was all-prepared

to act on complaints received from subscribers of such indecent practices, which were against social ethics and considered a crime punishable by law.

He added that subscribers involved in making such calls would have to face legal responsibility and deterrent measures, which could include imprisonment. Ministry telephone personnel would at request monitor the subscriber's line to identify the line source of calls made which would not last more than two weeks.

Houti said that ministry staff could also identify eavesdroppers who would stoop to the level of listening to others' private telephone conversations. He added that some ministry staff were expelled for involvement in such nuisance calls.

He pointed out that special personnel were on the lookout for nuisance calls made by unethical subscribers, stressing the ministry's concern for employing honest staff to operate its telephone subscriber services who had the integrity and ethics to

keep and protect the secrets of their profession and of subscribers.

Regarding complaints made by certain subscribers of being charged for calls they claimed they never made, the ministry had been able to identify the people responsible for these calls who mostly were staff of contractors doing business for the ministry and who use their technical know-how to connect a number of subscriber lines together and make calls that were technically untraceable, he said.

Computer studies at 40 schools under way

THE computer project manager at the Ministry of Education Dr Hmoud Al Sadoun has said that the introduction of computers as a study subject into the curriculum programme is currently under way in 40 secondary schools with a total of 30,000 students.

He told a local daily in the course of an interview that the current year would be an experimental period for this project and that the results would be evaluated by an ad-hoc committee comprising members of various agencies from inside and outside Kuwait.

Computers subject would be assigned two grades: a minimum failing grade and a passing grade, to reflect the importance attached to computers, Sadoun said. He further pointed out that a high percentage of students showed increasing interest in computers as evidenced by the courses and contests organised by 20 summer clubs involving this vital subject which attracted many as 5,000 students.

Progress

Headed that the results of the courses and contests were excellent and quite encouraging for similar steps in the future and provide specialist instructors to supervise the progress and training of students.

He said that initial results were very encouraging and there was a plan to increase computer classes, and organise more special-interest courses to qualify instructors.

Meanwhile, a special enlightening meeting for principals and headmistresses in charge of preparation and review of statistical data was yesterday held at the Training Centre in Jabriya, under the chairmanship of the director of the Planning Department at the Ministry Dr Jassem Mohammad Al Hamdan who delivered a speech in which he highlighted the vital role of educational statistics.

Data

He pointed out that statistical work involved collection of data on all aspects of the educational process for the purpose of review and characterisation pending study and extraction of standards and indexes.

He said that statistical work was essential to the development of the education sector, being a measurement scale of the past and a reliable forecasting means for the future, that would assist policy-making and decision-taking by all educationalists and researchers in the field.

No increase

THE assistant undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for private education Dr Yacoub Al Sharrar has denied that the ministry will increase tuition fees of pupils of private schools. Fees stipulated by the ministry last year remain unchanged which includes school tuitions, transportation charges and uniforms. The ministry's decision detailing tuition fees is available in every private school. The parents of pupils have the right to see the decision at anytime they want, Sharrar said.



Amir awards for children

SOCIAL Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohamed Al Jaber Al Sabah yesterday distributed awards extended by His Highness the Amir to outstanding members of youth centres and children's playgrounds.

Before distributing the awards, the minister inaugurated an exhibition held on the occasion in which the participants displayed their various activities.

Addressing the ceremony, Mansour Khalifa Al Shrida of the youth centres, hailed the Amir's gesture, saying it encourages the youth to invest their leisure time in constructive activities.

Picture shows young girls performing a dance at the awards ceremony.

Australian sheep trade suffers setback in UAE

GCC officials to discuss issue

ABU DHABI, Sept 13, (Agencies): Commercial sources said here today that Australian sheep trade in the UAE has suffered a sharp setback as sales rate dropped by 50 per cent while prices of other types of meat surged by 30 per cent.

Sources at the municipalities and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fish Resources in the UAE have confirmed the validity of Australian sheep arriving in the country lately. Abu Dhabi Municipality said that 3,400 Australian sheep heads were currently quarantined for exhibiting symptoms of Maltese fever (brucellosis).

The sources also said that the relevant authorities are preparing to re-export the diseased animals to the country of origin, and that more than 10,000 sick sheep heads have already been sent back to the exporting country.

The health authorities of Abu Dhabi Municipality ordered an Australian live sheep importing company to send back the shipment of 3,400 sheep after proving they were diseased. The order gave the company only 24 hours, to get the diseased sheep out of country. An official at Abu Dhabi Municipality said that the health inspection centre at the municipality returned back during the past few days a number of small shipments of Australian meat which arrived by land from Ras Al Khaima because they were found unfit for human consumption.

Two weeks ago, Abu Dhabi health authorities also ordered over 17,000 live Australian sheep to be sent back to the country of origin because a number of diseases were found in them. However, another municipality source announced that Abu Dhabi has at the same time allowed several other shipments of live Australian sheep because they were found to be disease free.

In Qatar, health authorities were on alert during the past few days to examine a consignment of live Australian sheep containing over 35,000 heads. Qatar was among the Gulf countries that returned some shipments of Australian sheep because they were diseased. Informed sources in the Gulf said Australia exports over six million live sheep to the GCC states every year.

Saudi Arabia tops the list of importers with over 3.1 million sheep, followed by Kuwait with 1.5 million and UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman which import the rest.

The United Arab Emirates had demanded last week that Saudi Arabia circulate the laboratory tests carried out on Australian sheep, to other GCC states. An official at Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, demanded the establishment of an information centre between the GCC health laboratories in order to exchange information on

various issues including Australian sheep.

Saudi agriculture minister said in a statement at the beginning of this month that clinical, veterinary and laboratory tests have confirmed that some of the live Australian sheep which arrived in Saudi Arabia were infected with sheep pox. He added that it was found that 25-30 per cent of the Australian sheep exports were diseased. On the other hand, reports published in Doha yesterday said that Australian sheep exporters were looking for new markets for their sheep after losing the huge Saudi market. Saudi Arabia imports over half of live Australian sheep exported to the GCC states.

In another development, the General Secretariat of the GCC states has decided to hold a meeting between the concerned GCC officials to discuss co-ordination on the issue of the Australian sheep. The GCC General Secretariat invited the six member states representatives to hold a meeting in Riyadh.

The trade dispute began in July when Saudi Arabia began rejecting shipments of live Australian sheep on grounds they were afflicted with viruses called bluetongue disease and sheep pox. Australian authorities insist that neither disease exists in Australia.

In all, the Saudis have turned away nearly 400,000 head of sheep, and Australia has responded by suspending all live sheep exports to the kingdom, its largest single customer with purchases of some 3.5 million sheep worth \$61.6 million a year.

Australian officials say they remain mystified by the Saudi decisions to reject the live sheep in the first place.

Australian Meat and Livestock Company's chief executive for the Middle East, Stephen Martyn, called the suspension of sales to Saudi Arabia a "short term measure, until such time as commercial confidence in live sheep trade can be regained."

He said he was "very confident the discussions in Riyadh will result in an agreement, allowing the trade between the two countries to continue."

John Wotton, the Bahrain based deputy chief executive said Australia "has a commitment to the Middle East market, and as far as meat and livestock are concerned, we will uphold our commitment and wish to continue doing business with the region."

"We don't like to see this sort of situation happening," he said, "but we will do everything possible to show our product is healthy and that the consumer need have no fears."

According to the officials, there are currently no ships in the water or loading for Saudi destinations. The last shipment of 19,000 head which was "already under sail" when the suspension went into effect was accepted a week ago in Jeddah.

Amir's address at Nam lauded

KUWAIT, Sept 13, (KUNA): A number of Non-Aligned Movement leaders have lavished praise on the address of His Highness the Amir before the summit conference held early this month in the Yugoslav capital.

In comments to a Kuwaiti magazine Nam leaders said the Amir's speech had summarised the world's problems and suggested ways to resolve them.

"His Highness the Amir, who spoke in the name of Gulf Co-operation Council and the Islamic nation, had tackled the international economic problems with objectivity and therefore earned the confidence and admiration of the entire world since he made his initiative before the UN General Assembly a year ago," the magazine quoted Nam leaders as saying.

Among those quoted by the magazine are: Yugoslav President Yanes Drnovsek, Democratic Yemen President Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas, President Carlos Andreas Perez of Venezuela, Omani Deputy Premier Qais Al Zawawi, Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qassem and others.

Kuwait's rank 21st in riches

PARIS, Sept 13, (Kuna): "The consequence of a successful monetary policy in Kuwait made revenues of the state's investments almost equal to that oil production," commented the 1989 World Economic Atlas (Atlasco).

The Atlasco, published today, is a guide to the economies of 204 countries, ranking Kuwait as 21st richest country in the world with an income of \$14,312 per capita in 1987.

With the production of 73 million tons of crude and seven billion cubic metres of natural gas, the guide said income of petroleum production is estimated between six and eight billion dollars, or 30 per cent of the gross national product.

It added that although Kuwait's oil reserves dropped to fifth position in the world, the extraction cost of Kuwaiti oil is \$2-3 per barrel, the lowest in the world, noting that the cost in the North Sea is about \$15.

Atlasco said several estimations are given to the volume of the Kuwaiti foreign investments, but an average figure is \$80 billion in 1987.

Al Bahar wins computerisation of bourse tender

MOHAMMAD Abdul Rahman Al Bahar Bahar has reportedly won a tender for the installation of computer systems in the Kuwaiti Securities Market in co-operation with the South Korean Stock Exchange Market, whose value is KD2,030,000, of which KD250,000 are the cost of adjustments to be made in the trading hall in the Kuwaiti Securities Market.

Other proposed changes to be executed involve a control room where monitoring of mediators in the market could take place through computerised panels.

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Committees to appoint new KU deans: Shuaib

Council to discuss admission policy

KUWAIT University Rector, Dr Shuaib Abdulla announced today that a number of selection committees will be set up shortly by the University to appoint deans for various colleges. He said that the committees will be formed during the University Council meeting due later this month. He further added that the committees will propose names of prospective deans and that the appointments will be announced after his approval.

Dr Shuaib expected that the names of the new deans won't be announced before the middle of the current semester. He categorically denied news published in a section of the local press on the names of some prospective deans.

Shuaib was appointed rector of Kuwait University several months ago, succeeding the former rector, Dr Abdul Mohsen Al Abdul Razzak who resigned. After his appointment, about 10 deans of various colleges at Kuwait University tendered their resignations. Some of them were later convinced to withdraw these resignations. The posts of several deans are still vacant awaiting new appointments. Acting deans manage the day-to-day affairs of each college. No reasons were announced for the resignations of the deans.

Besides, three members of the University Council also submitted their resignations. These resignations were later accepted by the university authorities. Dr Shuaib was speaking to newsmen after touring the new building of the College of Education before the start of the new academic



KU Rector, Dr Shuaib Abdulla.

year. Asked about the university plans towards the problem that girl students totally outnumber boys - particularly among Kuwaitis, he stressed that this issue will be discussed in detail after the new deans are appointed. This issue was raised after university statistics showed that the number of Kuwaiti girls was more than double of Kuwaiti boys at almost every college and department of the university.

Kuwaiti girl students form over 70 per cent of the total Kuwaiti students studying at Kuwait University. This issue also prominently figured at a meeting held this summer by the University Council, and some statements were issued hinting that the university was planning to reduce the number of admissions for Kuwaiti girls. A proposal was also made to increase the minimum marks for admitting girls and reducing that for boys at the same time.

The council after that meeting decided to form a committee in September to study the univer-

sity admission policy for the next three years from 90/91 to 92/93. The committee has not yet been formed. Dr Shuaib told newsmen that a comprehensive study on admission percentages is under way. He said that the university council will review the results of the study before finally approving it. He added that the new admission percentages will be announced before the results of the higher secondary examinations are announced next year. This year, Kuwait University admitted over 2,600 students, 70 per cent of them were girls. The minimum admission percentage was 68.2 per cent for Arts students and 62.4 per cent for Science students for Kuwaitis only.

Dr Shuaib added that the university is also conducting another study on the number of students expected to graduate from the Higher Secondary Examination and may seek admission at Kuwait University. He said that the study will cover the number of students over the next 4 or 5 years. This will help the university work out its admission plans.

Meanwhile, Dr Shuaib yesterday toured the buildings of the College of Education and the College of Sharia and Islamic Studies. He was accompanied by the deans of the two colleges and other university officials. He also inspected the registration hall, where students will start registering from next Tuesday, Sept 19. Dr Shuaib said that his visit was to ensure that the various colleges were ready to receive students.



Nasser receives KJA board

The Social Affairs and Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmad received at the ministry yesterday president and board members of the Kuwait Journalists' Association. President of the Association, Ahmad Behbehani thanked the minister for the support extended by the ministry to the association and showed him the progress of the construction of the new KJA premises near the local newspapers in Shuwaikh. Sheikh Nasser stressed on the great attention paid by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier to journalists and the local press.

Green and beautiful campaign in Bahrain

BAHRAIN was once famous during the times when it was the centre of the Dilmun Civilization for its 'million palm trees'. The island's legendary beauty and lush greenery made it renowned throughout the region. According to mythology it was called 'the Garden of Eden'. The palm tree has a lot to do with the natural heritage of this land's glorious past. For indeed throughout the ages it has symbolised Bahrain's abundant natural attractions. There was a time when much of this island nation was covered with the ubiquitous palm tree. Apart from the numerous practical uses this tree had become a common and natural phenomenon for the small number of islanders in different areas.

However, over the last few decades the palm tree has been increasingly subjected to initial neglect and subsequent decline in the name of modernisation and economic development. Since the early thirties when oil was first discovered in Bahrain, the role of the once invaluable and indispensable arboreal wonder has become increasingly uncertain. Rapid industrialisation and the need to acquire and develop land on a large scale for commercial activities as well as residential areas have resulted in systematic felling of palm trees throughout different areas of the country.

Overnight, the number of palm trees, dwindled at an alarming rate in certain areas, giving way to both urban and rural development schemes in all aspects. The destruction of the palm tree has not only been confined to the major towns but also to most of the surrounding villages.

It may be explained that in view of Bahrain's limited size and the need for physical expansion to generate industrialisation and therefore economic development the palm tree had had to go in many hitherto beautiful spots. However, according to environmentalists there has to be genuine effort from all concerned in preserving palm trees in certain areas so as to maintain a logical ecological balance.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office in Bahrain has emphasised the need for the government here to implement their various economic and industrial schemes in the country while keeping a close view of the necessity of not affecting the environment as a whole, including the palm tree.

In recent times the government of Bahrain has launched campaigns to preserve the environment so as to prevent the destruction of the country's rich output of flora and fauna at the expense of modernisation. Efforts to "Keep Bahrain Green and Beautiful" have been made on a national scale.

It appears that the much loved palm tree will survive after all. The government has curbed the felling of palm trees in certain areas, particularly the northern strips where many stand. In fact, the palm tree has even made a comeback in some places thanks to tourism.

Baudouin foundation award for development

A PRESS release from the Belgian embassy in Kuwait has stated that the King Baudouin Foundation will award the King Baudouin International Development Prize for the sixth time in autumn of 1990.

The purpose of the prize is to reward persons who or organizations which, without regard to national origin, have made a substantial contribution toward the development of the Third World or toward the co-operation and good relations among industrialised and developing countries and among their peoples.

Particular importance shall be attached to activities having a multiplier effect and to activities that enable the peoples of the Third World to work for their own development.

Four million Belgian francs (approximately \$100,000) is the amount of the award. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat of the King Baudouin Foundation before September 30, 1989. The prize will be awarded by the Board of Directors of the Foundation on the advice of a selection committee. A large number of Belgian and foreign persons and organisations will be invited to nominate candidates: scientific academies, international or regional organizations working in the development field and university teachers whose teaching or research is development related.

The regulations of the prize, which contain all relevant details, can be obtained from: The Secretariat King Baudouin Foundation Rue Brederode 21 B-1000 Brussels (Belgium) Or from Belgian diplomatic or consular posts.

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Five envoys present credentials to HH the Amir

The ambassadors of Sri Lanka, Finland, West Germany, Malaysia and Sudan yesterday presented HH the Amir their credentials during a special ceremony held at Bayan Palace at 10:30 am.

Present at the ceremony were Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah, Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs, Amiri Diwan Secretary and Commander of the Amiri Guards.

10,500 new residence permits issued in August 7,600 visas cancelled

THE immigration departments in the four governorates issued over 10,500 new residence permits during the month of August this year, a release issued by the Interior Ministry said today. The departments also cancelled over 7,600 residence permits for expatriates during the same month. Over 20,200 residence permits were renewed and 460 temporary residence permits were issued during the past month, the release added. During the same period, the four departments transferred residence permits of over 4,300 expatriates from their sponsors to new ones. They also opened new files for 913 new sponsors.

During the same month, Immigration Departments issued 9,308 work permits, the majority (7,397) of them went to housemaids and domestics. They were followed by work permits issued for labourers in the private sector with 1,269 work permits. The departments also issued 542 dependent visas.

9,836 visit visas were also issued by the immigration departments during the same month. 4,849 of the visit visas were issued to relatives of families and 4,836 visit visas were issued for business visits. 136 of the visit visas were issued for government visits and 26 for medical purposes. The departments also issued 491 permissions for expatriates to overstay the six month period outside Kuwait.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier receives

KUWAIT, Sept. 13, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah received at his diwan at the Bayan Palace today Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Muharik Al Raddad, Finance Minister Jasssem Mohammed Al Khorafi, Ahmad Governor Sheikh Al Sabah Al Salem and Managing Director of the South and Arab Gulf Authority Ahmad Zaim Al Saqqaf.

French envoy

KUWAIT, Sept. 13, (Kuna): French Ambassador to Kuwait Jean Bellivier today welcomed the visit of HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to France due September 25.

The French ambassador, in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, described Franco-Kuwaiti relations as strong and excellent. Bellivier further said that the visit will enable Sheikh Jaber and French President Francois Mitterrand to resume their constructive political talks on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

He added that their discussions will be also topped by developing countries foreign debts and environment problems.

Lebanon relief

KUWAIT, Sept. 13, (Kuna): The Kuwait Zakat (Alms) House announced today the donation of KD20,000 (1 dinar equals \$3.3) for relief operations in Lebanon.

An official source at the house told Kuna that the donation followed an appeal by the joint Kuwaiti committee for relief which called on citizens and institutions to extend assistance for their brothers in Lebanon.

Zakat House has asked all institutions and individuals to share in the donations campaign in a bid to alleviate the sufferings of the Lebanese people caused by continued fighting.

Police conference

KUWAIT, Sept. 13, (Kuna): Assistant Interior Minister Undersecretary for Police Affairs Brigadier Mohamed Al Qabandi will lead Kuwait's delegation to the 14th meeting of Arab police and security chiefs, due to take place in Cairo Sept. 16-18.

Brigadier Qabandi told Kuna that the meeting will pay due concern to the question of combating terrorism and subversive organisations, the preoccupation of security men all over the world.

He said the State of Kuwait had requested the inclusion of the issue of sports riots in the agenda of the meeting due to recurrence of such incidents in which hundreds of people were killed in different parts of the world.

Brigadier Qabandi said the meeting will discuss the date and venue for the upcoming session, indicating that if no Arab country offers to host it then it will be held in the headquarters in Tunis.



Salem meets with mukhtars

Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah presided yesterday over a meeting of the mukhtars committee. The meeting discussed the requirements of the various areas among other issues.

Communication undersecretaries meet Marine cable project discussed

THE Higher Planning Committee at the Ministry of Communications decided to hold a meeting on the level of undersecretaries between Kuwait and Bahrain to conduct a feasibility study on the Marine Cable Project between Kuwait and Bahrain.

The committee headed by Communications Minister Abdullah Al Sharihan discussed the issue of modern services during a meeting held yesterday morning with the attendance of Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Ayyoub and assistant undersecretaries.

Other issues discussed during the committee meetings included measures taken at Shurwaikh division towards lightening the pressure applied to computers in order to avoid delays in telephone connections.

The Ministry of Communications will receive new equipment to resolve the problem of delays as of early May, 1990.

The committee also decided to take necessary decisions to providing equipment and divisions specially for overseas calls without going through the International Calls Division to facilitate a bigger number of calls and in the least amount of time.

The higher committee also took a decision on coastal and ground stations to cut down manpower through applying electronics instruments. The committee emphasised the issue of telephone magnetic cards and the locations designated for them at co-operative societies and commercial complexes.

Meanwhile Sharihan has warned against the use of common TV receptive dish antennas as transmitters, pointing out that these antennas could only operate via the satellite Arabsat Intelsat which are programmed to receive pre-determined specific transmission material.

He told a local daily that transmission to the Israeli satellite was technically impossible, as this satellite was circulating a very low orbit and very high speed, in synchrony with the earth's movement, and that the Intelsat satellite only received transmission directed to ships.

He added that the aerial systems currently in use are unauthorised. However, the ministry is considering granting authorisation in certain cases, with the approval of the Information Ministry provided the system is tuned to approved frequencies and wavelengths.

More minors commit crimes

MORE minors, particularly males, are involved in various criminal acts, according to Col Fahd Al Mekhlid of the Ministry of Interior. He said that September has been declared as a campaign month against this dangerous phenomenon. The department has been issuing statistics about cases of juvenile delinquency in recent months. The statistics said that during the first half of this year, the minors committed over 1,233 criminal acts, some of them misdemeanour cases. During the months of May and June, the minors committed over 420 crimes and misdemeanours.

The statistics added that out of the 1,233 crimes and misdemeanours 298 of them were crimes and 935 were misdemeanour cases. As many as 1,550 minors were involved in both acts only during the first half of this year. 840 of the minors were Kuwaitis. These figures show a sharp increase in the number of minors involved in criminal activities over 1988. For this reason the Interior Ministry decided to launch the campaign.

Vacations

The statistics also added that of the 1,233 crimes and misdemeanours 298 of them were crimes in which 374 minors were involved, 193 of them were Kuwaitis and the rest belong to other nationalities. The remaining 935 misdemeanours were carried out by over 1,176 minors. 674 of them were Kuwaitis. During the months of May and June 121 crimes were committed by 193 minors including 109 Kuwaitis. During the same two months, the minors committed about 300 misdemeanours. 407 minors including 198 Kuwaitis were involved in the misdemeanour cases.

The criminal activities committed by the minors ranged from robberies, drugs, liquor to traffic offences and possessing unlicensed arms. The Public Relations Department said that during the month of May alone, minors committed 230 criminal activities which included 52 robberies, 71 traffic offences particularly driving without licence and others. The department warned parents of leaving their cars accessible to their children. It added that the school summer vacation which started in early May seems to have helped minors commit more offences. It said that the wrong utilisation of summer vacations is one of the main factors that contribute to increase in the crime rate. It stressed that there is a great need for more family attention towards their children.

New school year according to plan

Seat for every student: Khodari

THE Undersecretary at Kuwait's Ministry of Education Abdurrahman Al Khodari was quoted as confirming that the ministry has undertaken all long-term preparations to meet requirements of the new academic year 1989/1990.

In an interview with a local daily, Khodari said that all the relevant preparations were in line with prescribed plans and in accordance with recommendations of a specialised committee. Replying to a question, the undersecretary denied that the increase in the number of students this year will increase pressure on the ministry's schools. The official commented that every student will have a seat either in the government or private schools.

Speaking of classroom density, the official said that issue is relative. However, in intensity, it differed from one school to another.

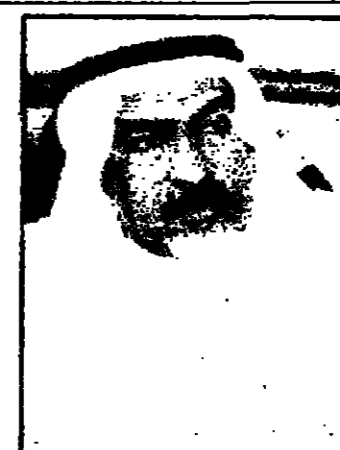
Some classes number 33-35 students each while others contain only 15-20 students and this basically depends on the population density of each area. He clarified that the population density at Farwaniya Educational Area for example is more than the Capital.

The ministry will address this issue to avoid the disparity in the number of students at each class from one school to another by increasing the schools at some area such as Firdous and Jahra. In a pre-designed move, the ministry has built additional classrooms at some schools in Jahra, Ahmadi and Farwaniya.

Tutorials

Replying to a question over ministry efforts to ban private tutorials, the undersecretary said that determining regulations governing the education process is the responsibility of the ministry's schools. He confirmed that all the ministry's schools will be urged to organise tutorials inside the schools against nominal charges. However, tutorials, will be optional for students.

Reflecting the decision of the ministry to enhance the education process, the official disclosed that the ministry introduced a new experiment this year for the first and secondary primary classes. According to



Khodari... preparations

this experiment, students of these stages will be required to do their homework in the class and under the supervision of their teachers.

Khodari clarified that by the beginning of each academic year, parents used to complain about the excessive requirements imposed by teachers on students which constitute a financial burden on the parents. To solve this problem, the ministry had formed a committee empowered to discuss scholastic requirements for the kindergarten and primary stages. Another committee will be formed next year for the intermediate and secondary stages. He described the plan as a step in the right direction and said that schools requirements for the next academic year along with the relevant certificate. This is intended to facilitate the purchase of students requirements by parents.

Air-conditioning

Meanwhile, the undersecretary was quoted as confirming that all the kindergartens and primary schools had been air-conditioned this year in accordance with the directives of HH the Amir.

The undersecretary said that the ministry had received 23 schools all of which had been completely furnished. Speaking of his evaluation of the credit hours system which is currently applied in some schools of the country, Khodari described the experiment as an encouraging one, hinting that the ministry hopes to expand the terms of the experiment year by year. He

added that the committee which had been formed to follow up this issue had called for increasing classes of the credit hours system.

Khodari commented that there is a qualitative transition in the scholastic administration and that the future concept envisages striving to ensure that these administrative bodies working as independent units would collectively contribute their expertise towards appraising its educational and administrative level.

Resolutions adopted recently by the Higher Council for Education encouraged the Ministry of Education to give a distinguished role to its schools particularly towards administration. He added that the ministry will arrange for an intensified training course for the schools headmasters and their assistants to achieve this goal. The course will be organised in co-operation with the Kuwait University, Civil Service Commission (CSC) and Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

According to the Higher Council recommendation every school principal will be given the necessary power embodying the independence of his school and in the meantime, the principal will be treated as director of department at the ministry.

He added an ad hoc committee has been formed comprising representatives from the Ministry of Education, Kuwait Municipality and the Ministry of Public Health to supervise and control the activities of canteens at schools. On preventing students from smoking, the undersecretary called on teachers and parents to set a good example to students by refraining from smoking.

Speaking of the ministry's new projects, Khodari said, according to the ministry's five-year plan, several projects are to be implemented such as the evaluation of the educational process in the kindergartens and primary stages, the development of the educational techniques in the primary, intermediate and secondary stages, the training of the ministry's staff and establishing of necessary centres for the practicing students activities.

From the courts

Lady lawyer accused of misrepresentation

AKUWAITI court sentenced a lady lawyer to three months imprisonment with labour for misrepresenting the trust and confidentiality of documents entrusted by a client.

The court was told that the complainant had entered into an agreement with the accused to represent the former in a divorce case against her husband for which the complainant had paid an amount of KD200 as advance payment of the accused's lawyer's fees. Further, the complainant had also entrusted to the accused certain confidential documents.

However, the plaintiff told the court that the accused failed to appear in the court on the appointed date of the case resulting in the case being cancelled.

On going to the accused's office, the plaintiff was surprised to learn that the lawyer's employees were shifting to another location. The victim said that the confidential documents entrusted to the accused were also missing. The victim had registered the accused as her lawful attorney at the real estate registration office.

Car owner liable

THE Higher Court of Appeal adjudged that a vehicle owner is liable to pay financial compensation for injuries caused to another person, irrespective if the vehicle was at the time of the accident being driven by a person other than the owner. The court further decreed that this decision held good irrespective of whether the driver held a valid driving licence or not. It added that a vehicle owner cannot avoid

paying compensation or reimburse the insurance company that paid the compensation on the grounds that such payment was made without his/her permission. This ruling applied to cases where the car was driven by any individual with the consent of the owner.

This decision had arisen as an insurance company had previously filed a case at the First Degree Commercial Court demanding that the vehicle's lady owner and her brother should pay KD12,500 as compensation to the dependent of the woman victim killed in an accident involving the lady's car.

The traffic court sentenced the brother for over-speeding and causing the death of the victim.

Juvenile vandals arrests

TWO stateless juveniles have been apprehended for vandalising and destroying various items at Abdulla ben Amro Intermediate School at Al Sulaihiyah Area, a local daily quoted Sulaiman Al Kouh, director of Al Jahra Educational Area.

The official in his complaint said that the accused had stolen the question papers of the second term examination and had also destroyed a lot of books and laboratory equipment.

The security personnel at Al Jahra Governorate who arrested the culprits said that one of them had committed several crimes previously, including stealing of KD7,000 from one of the houses in the area. One of the defendants was studying at the school, while his accomplice was studying at another.

533 rescue operations last year

STATISTICS issued by the General Fire Administration (GFA) indicate that firemen carried out 533 rescue operations during last year. It added that 571 persons were rescued and 459 were killed or injured in these accidents. It also added that firemen extinguished 1,834 fires in 1988. The fires included 977 accidents in housing areas, 178 accidents in commercial installations, 126 in government installations, 468 in vehicles and buses and 85 accidents in other places.

It also pointed out that rescue operations reported during the first half of this year totalled 325 in which 318 persons were killed or injured and 367 persons were rescued. The fire centres reported 915 fires during the same period.

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on the sad demise of her

father

May his soul rest in peace

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MEN reject their prophets and slay them, but they love their martyrs and honour those whom they have slain — Feodor Dostoevski, Russian writer (1821-1881).

Peacemakers debate return

800,000 flee Beirut

THREE Arab peacemakers met in Saudi Arabia yesterday to debate whether to attempt to still the guns in Lebanon after earlier admitting defeat in their quest.

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia discussed the crisis buoyed by what Arab diplomats said were encouraging signs from rival factions which have been trying to shell each other into submission since March.

Optimism that the peace bid would be revived rose after Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, in remarks published on Tuesday, spoke of a determination to restore normal life to Lebanon.

The heads of state of the three countries forming the Arab League's Lebanon Committee were given six months to complete their peace mandate.

"We are determined, with God's will, to find a final solution to a tragedy which everyone agrees should come to an end," newspapers in the kingdom quoted him as saying.

More than 800 people have been killed since mid-March in shelling between forces loyal to Lebanese Christian Army commander Michel Aoun and Syrian troops backed by their Muslim and leftist militia allies.

Some 800,000 of Beirut's 105 million residents have fled since Christian Army chief Michel Aoun began a "war of liberation" in March to force Syrian troops out of Lebanon.

Many left the country but many more just moved to temporary camps in the south or north, within a few hours drive of Beirut.

Tie tents and makeshift wooden shelters covered by blankets or plastic sheets stand side-by-side on the hillside around the village of Annaya, 1,200 metres (3,940 feet) above sea level and 40 km (25 miles) northeast of the gun batteries in Beirut.

Overpowering

Many refugees said they fled Christian east Beirut after their homes were damaged or destroyed by Syrian gunners or their Lebanese allies. Others escaped when fear became overpowering.

"We would have gone anywhere where there is no shelling," said Zakaria. Our house was hit and every day many people were killed. It was too dangerous and frightening for the children.

Some have been there so long they have set up strings of light bulbs powered by illegally tapping into the mains electricity cables alongside the road.

"It's so quiet up here. We never hear a shell or explosion," said Julienne Azzi, 25, who with her husband and one-year-old baby left the east Beirut neighbourhood of Sed El Bouchayeh in July.

The only sounds which break the mountain calm are the honking of cars and occasional crack of rifles as bored youths and their fathers hunt down the area's declining population of small birds.

One Arab ambassador in Nicosia said Damascus was ready to help the committee after succeeding in convincing it of some of Syria's security needs in Lebanon and Aoun, who commands 15,000 soldiers, was willing to co-operate.

The US last week evacuated its embassy in Christian east Beirut in a move some political analysts said was aimed at maintaining the status quo between the rival armies in Lebanon.

Washington said the action was taken because the safety of its diplomats could no longer be guaranteed.

France changed its plans to send a naval task force to Lebanon after Syria and its allies criticised the deployment as support for Aoun.

"After the Americans left him and the French pulled out their fleet Aoun now realises that the Arab committee is his only chance. He has to play or lose it all," he said.

"The Lebanese people and Arab nation attach great hopes to the committee's efforts ... and the start of a new age of détente, love, security and brotherhood," the official Saudi Press Agency, received in Nicosia, said.

The Lebanese, however, are less optimistic about prospects for peace, having seen dozens of peace efforts disappear in a blaze of cannon and rocket fire.

But political analysts in Beirut said the committee had a good chance of arranging a ceasefire that would restore the pre-March status quo.

The chances of an overall settlement remained bleak, they added. "The committee has better chances of success this time because the warring factions are now convinced that there can be no military solution," an Arab diplomat in Riyadh said.

A statement by the committee said last week the ministers were meeting to "assess the situation and look into the possibility of moving again."

Factions

During their previous diplomatic shuttle, the ministers visited Syria and Iraq, which arms Aoun. They also sent an Arab League envoy to Lebanon to negotiate with the rival factions.

If the peacemakers can achieve a ceasefire the committee hopes to help convene the Lebanese parliament which would formulate constitutional and political reforms and elect a president.

Under the existing national charter, preference is given to the country's Maronite Christians.

Lebanon has been without a president since the term of Christian President Amin Gemayel ended last September.

The country has two rival governments — one used by Aoun and a Muslim-led caretaker administration headed by acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss.

One of the main difficulties in achieving a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon is that Damascus demands a parallel Israeli pullout from a self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

The Arab League wants all foreign forces to withdraw.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1613 — Turkey invades Hungary.
- 1752 — Britain adopts Gregorian calendar.
- 1774 — Russian pretender Pugachoff is delivered by Cossacks to Russian government following decisive defeat and he subsequently is executed.
- 1812 — Napoleon Bonaparte enters Moscow and Russians set fires throughout the city.
- 1829 — Treaty of Adrianople ends Russo-Turkish war.
- 1854 — Allied forces land unopposed in Crimean war with Russia.
- 1864 — Japan agrees to treaty following attack by British, French and Dutch fleets in Shimonoseki straits in reprisal for Japan's closing ports and expelling foreigners.
- 1911 — Peter Stolypin, Russian premier, is assassinated.
- 1918 — Austria-Hungary makes peace offer to allies in World War I.
- 1923 — Miguel Primo de Rivera assumes dictatorship in Spain.
- 1947 — Poland denounces concordat with Roman Catholic Church.
- 1971 — China makes it clear it will refuse seat at United Nations while Chinese nationalists remain.
- 1972 — US senate approves US Soviet agreement to freeze major part of their offensive nuclear arsenals for five years.
- 1967 — Report says unidentified warplane bombed barracks town in western Uganda near border with Zaire.
- 1988 — More than 100,000 people march through streets of Rangoon, Burma, demanding that President Maung Maung's authoritarian government step aside.

Israel put on the spot

Egypt comes up with Arab response

EGYPT, with cautious US backing, has put Israel on the spot by offering conditions for Palestinian elections that have split Israeli leaders, Western diplomats say.

President Hosni Mubarak has urged Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to back his terms for accepting a poll in the occupied territories, linking it to an Israeli commitment to eventually trade captured Arab land for peace.

That key condition plays on a rift between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud Party, which opposes any territorial concession, and Vice-Premier Shimon Peres' Labour Party, which would yield part of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Egypt has come up with a coherent Arab response to Israel's peace initiative which says 'yes' to elections and puts the ball back in the Israeli court," a Western diplomat said.

"Washington is coming to see the Egyptian proposals as the best hope of moving the peace process forward," he said.

A senior Israeli source said the United States was giving strong support behind the scenes to the Egyptian effort, urging Israel, Jordan and the PLO to negotiate on the conditions.

Shamir met his top three ministers yesterday — Labour's Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens of Likud — to discuss the Egyptian proposal.

There was no report on the outcome of their debate, but Shamir later refused to allow the inner cabinet to discuss the issue.

Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan backed the Egyptian proposals in a Washington speech on Tuesday but PLO leader Yasser Arafat has been silent since meeting Mubarak in Cairo on Monday.

The Egyptian terms include international supervision of free elections, an Israeli commitment to abide by the result, the right of east Jerusalem Arabs to participate and a halt to Jewish settlement in occupied areas.

Responding to a Palestinian uprising now in its 22nd month, Israel offered in May to hold elections for Arab representatives to negotiate limited self-rule in the occupied territories.

The Israeli plan promised talks on a final settlement within five years but gave no commitment to withdraw from the areas or stop settlement.

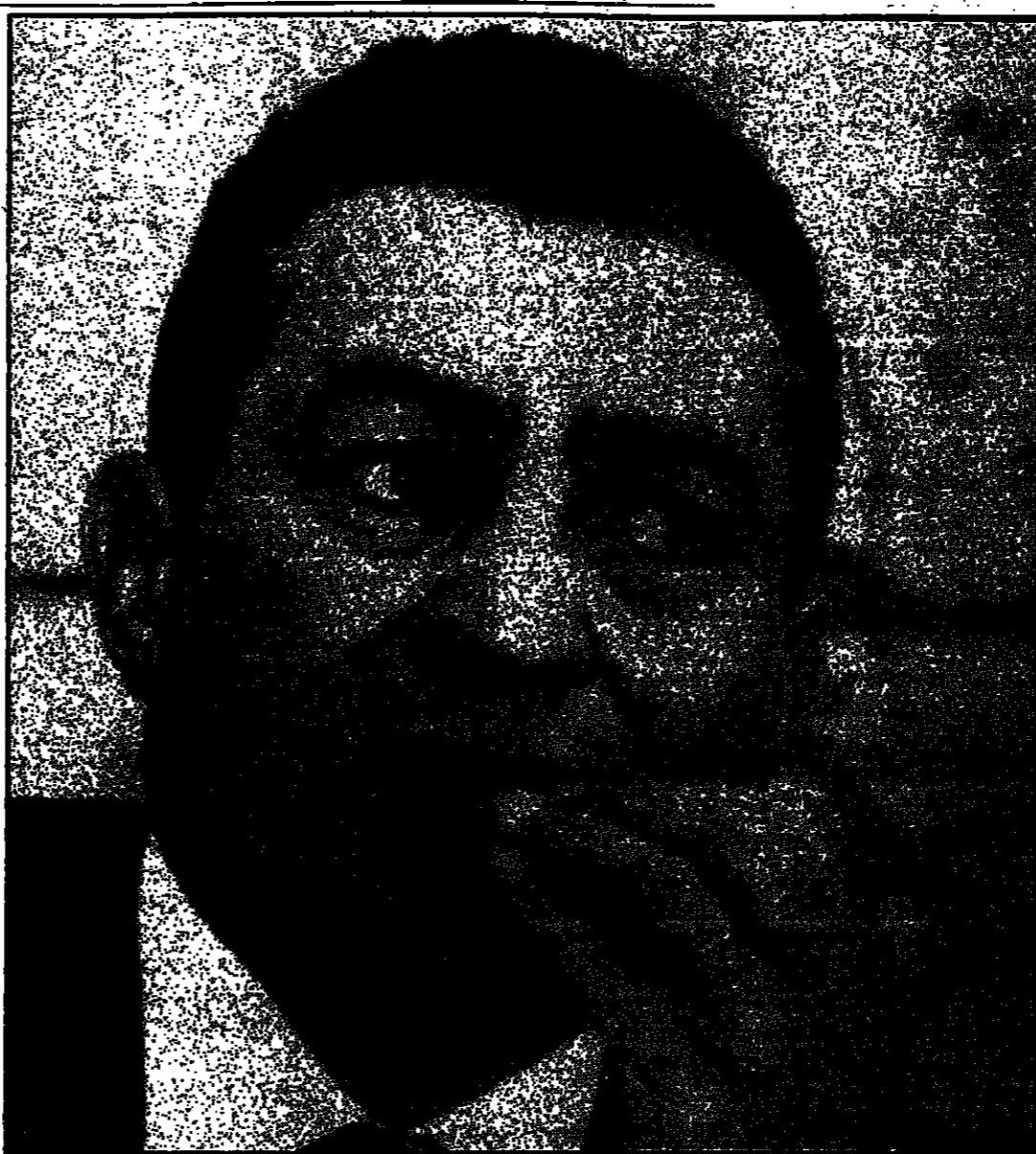
The PLO rejected elections before an Israeli withdrawal and before an assurance on the final status of the territories.

Elder statesman Abba Eban, just back from Egypt, said on Wednesday he expected Mubarak to invite Israeli and Palestinian negotiators to Cairo soon to discuss conditions for elections.

Israeli newspapers said the Egyptian leader was expected to use a Sept 29 UN General Assembly speech to issue the invitation and name a Palestinian delegation acceptable to the PLO and Washington.

The delegation would comprise leaders from the occupied territories and some Palestinians expelled by Israel, but no PLO officials, the reports said.

At least two leaders from the occupied territories were in Cairo this week to plead for a constructive



Hosni Mubarak: coherent response

Palestinian response on elections, senior Palestinian sources said.

They are warning the PLO that a continued political deadlock will lead to increased violence, hardship and factionalism in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Faced with the Egyptian challenge, Israeli leaders have responded in dismay.

Peres and several dovish Labour ministers have welcomed the Egyptian conditions as a basis for negotiations, while his more powerful and hawkish Labour colleague, Rabin, has avoided public com-

ment on the issue.

Shamir openly rebuked the foreign minister for discussing the Egyptian proposals with a visiting US envoy.

The Prime Minister's office has insisted there is no need to address the Egyptian ideas until an Arab partner has agreed in principle to the Israeli initiative.

However Shamir's aides say they regard the Egyptian proposals as an attempt to help the PLO and isolate Israel by focussing on the issue of "territory for peace." (Jerusalem — Reuters)

Moderates turn tables on rivals

A HUNDRED days ago, a vast outpouring of grief marked the burial of Ayatollah Khomeini, whose unbending dogma and unchallenged authority had given Iran a leadership no man could match.

In chaotic hysteria at Tehran's Behesht-e-Zahra cemetery, mourners snatched at the shroud which wrapped the body of the aged Shiite Muslim cleric, tumbling his corpse briefly into the dust and delaying the funeral for several hours.

Power in Iran also seemed up for grabs. Men who were at each others' throats in Khomeini's shadow stepped to the centre of the political stage.

But to the surprise of many outsiders, the struggle for power has been peaceful. And for Western governments that see Islamic Iran as a dangerously unsettling force in the region, the outcome is encouraging.

Moderate clerics such as former President Ali Khamenei and his successor, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, have turned the tables on their rivals.

Radicals like former Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Musavi and former interior minister have been shunted from the scene or relegated to junior positions.

Revival of a stagnant economy — hard hit by the eight-year Gulf war with Iraq halted by a ceasefire a

year ago — is now seen as the main political task.

Few observers doubt that improving relations with the outside world will be a key means to that end.

Iran's constitution, revised in a process which spanned Khomeini's last months and the early weeks of the new era, has also gained greater importance, defining the roles of different institutions in a way that seems to make the Islamic Republic a more predictable power.

"While Khomeini was alive, the President was moving in one direction and the prime minister in another. The interior minister would meddle in foreign policy matters," said Baqer Moin, a London-based journalist who has written a biography of Khomeini.

"Now all officials are bound by the constitution." Radicals had been in the ascendancy right up to Khomeini's death, their antagonism to the West refreshed by his call for the death of British novelist Salman Rushdie for blasphemy.

The choice of Ayatollah Khamenei to replace Khomeini as Iran's supreme spiritual leader reversed that trend.

The election of Rafsanjani, an ally of Khamenei, as President in July concentrated religious and

political authority in the hands of moderates for the first time since the 1979 revolution.

Rafsanjani, a white-turbaned cleric regarded by Iranians as the main political power, has with Khamenei rapidly consolidated the moderates' grip.

Mohammad Ali Jafari was dropped from the cabinet against the wishes of a radical majority in Parliament.

Musavi, whose job of prime minister was abolished in the constitutional changes, now holds an advisory post where he seems firmly under the President's control.

In Khomeini's time, decision-making, particularly on economic policy, was hindered by the division of powers. Musavi had favoured state-run enterprises, while Khamenei, then the president, sought a share for the private businessman.

Moderates in the Foreign Ministry had likewise watched helplessly as Khomeini preached defiance of the West and declared support for fundamentalist groups holding hostages in Lebanon.

Mohammad Ali Jafari, who helped found Hezbollah in Lebanon while Iranian ambassador to Syria, opposed moves that might have won the release of the captives. Rafsanjani has offered conditional help to free them. (Nicosia — Reuters)

Letters to the Editor

Indian panorama or Pandora?

SIR: Apropos the letter The Indian Panorama (AT, Sept 4), the argument that India had acquired a formidable array of arms solely to counter aggression from super powers and other lesser powers is to say the least, naive. Can India be armed against all possible contingencies that could occur? Can it take on the superpowers like America, or lesser powers like China?

Its nuclear deterrence does not, and will not deter China, which can lob a few H-bombs with lethal effect, nor does its one-million-man Army match China's Army for its battle fitness when it cannot take on untrained soldiers from Sri Lanka. India is simply inviting aggression even from the least expected quarters. Are India's ambitions truly peaceful? Judging from its fiasco in Sri Lanka, where it had gone with a force of 130,000 armed men, battle tanks and several divisions, to enforce a peace against a handful — 2000 men, they are not.

In the Congo the UN sent a 500 man force to enforce a UN mandated peace. Is the settling of internal strife the role of the UNO or that of a regional power like India? Then, mainland China could ostensibly "invade" Singapore, where it has a considerable ethnic Chinese, or in Hong Kong? Of course, there could be any pretext for such ostensibly peaceful actions.

The real reason, though covert, is to keep America off Sri Lanka, judging by its special clauses in the preamble to the so-called Peace Pact, which is, by any stretch of imagination, could be said to be peaceful. Those who had access to Indian defence files contend that, the former prime minister had wanted to invade Sri Lanka, and that they recruited youths paying them a regular salary and trained them in the Himalayan foothills! It has proved to be a Himalayan folly.

India is and now bogged down in the Sri Lankan jungles, losing manpower, arms caches, costing \$300 million as your paper had reported. "So what harm if India builds up its defensive capability?" The same argument could be advanced by even Lebanon to defend itself against France, Syria, Iraq

and Iran. Then even tiny Singapore could decide to go nuclear, why not Indonesia and all those countries that abut on the vast Indian Ocean? India, suffering from a sense of inferiority due to its colonial past, or a sense of paranoid frenzy should not waste its meagre resources to go nuclear, because by that very act it would instigate Pakistan to produce a nuclear bomb. India now wants ICBMs to deliver nuclear warheads. Can't Pakistan do the same? But can you really use A-bombs or H-bombs in a war? That would be tantamount to nuclear MADness — Mutually Assured Destruction, a concept now discarded as untenable. It would merely escalate the arms race, and help the arms suppliers like Bofors to enrich itself and the bureaucratic middlemen.

In the nuclear field the big boys are not alarmed at India's fledgling capability, as the big boys don't think India is any match to England, or France or America, either separately or together, with their sophisticated, fast and accurate delivery systems, so deadly devastating. It only alarms the smaller boys — Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, who cannot match India's offensive capabilities.

How could nuclear deterrence going to deliver India from its mostly imagined woes of a bygone decade or decades under Imperial Britain? What the author is talking about "deterrence" in a biblical tones, beats me? His statements constitutes what he himself connotes "a conglomerate of misconceived information," because the statements relating to "as a guinea pig to experiment their medicines and technology" is not relevant to the argument at issue — India's acquisition of a formidable array of arms not "medicines."

The world is in this predicament because of the arms race. If every trivial disputes had to be settled by invoking arms by every party, leading to the other party doing the same, there would be more Lebanons.

If this is taken to its logical conclusion, borrowing India's argument, that if Syria were to ask for nuclear tipped missiles, and then Iraq would supply the other party with similar nuclear tipped missiles, the situation would be fraught with disastrous consequences.

It is the onus of responsibility for the UNO or a world government to settle disputes through effective dialogue or the use of optimum level of force, as you see in Palestine, where the UN peacekeeping force had not used indiscriminate shelling at civilians, and is able to maintain a semblance of order. The same cannot be said of the Indian soldiers, who had killed Hindus in their temples, Muslims in the eastern province, and Buddhist villagers in the city of Anuradhapura.

It had defied the head of state, and continue to engage in hostilities, and its terms of reference had expired, and it insists that its job is still not over. So the argument that it had arrogated to itself the authority, overriding the authority conferred upon it by the former head of state, is fully satisfied, for it would appear that India and not Sri Lanka, wanted this interference in its internal dispute. So it would appear that it was India that coerced Sri Lanka into a pact, for its own reasons, not by invitation by Sri Lanka.

Indian belligerence is unmistakably clear to any rational being. India had sent a force to Bangladesh, Maldivian Islands, to Sri Lanka, and it is well known, that it wanted to interfere in the Fiji islands, but of course, its action against China and Pakistan is understandable.

We do not for a moment deny that India should pursue research into electronics, medicine or technology, that would advance its backwardness, but to use its nuclear reactor technology provided by Canada to make fissionable material is wholly indefensible. India did not invent the A-bomb. The West gave away their secrets when they realised that Russia had acquired the nuclear capability through the British spy — Dr Fuchs. I think the West should not trust India's intentions, in view of the fact, it harbours all sorts of paranoid feelings towards the Western powers. In Geneva under the Atoms For Peace, America gave away their nuclear secrets to minimise the threat from Russia's awesome power. That is how India and China had both acquired the nuclear capability.

Nagayama
Tokyo

Masked men haunt Israelis

FOR Israeli soldiers, the Palestinian uprising is no longer a battle against large riots, but a matter of stalking gangs of masked Palestinians armed with knives, pipes and firebombs.

Palestinian youths have banded together to enforce PLO strike calls, distribute leaflets, attack soldiers and kill Arab collaborators. Some have taken imposing names: Striking Arms, Intervention Forces, Black Panthers, The Liberators, Popular Army Brigades, Lightning Forces.

They often operate at night after the Army-imposed curfew begins. Some wear khaki uniforms and carry handkerchiefs.

"The character of the uprising has changed. Instead of mass demonstrations, there is tension and isolated events in which fewer and fewer people are taking part," Maj. Gen. Matan Vinai, the Gaza commander, told the daily Maariv recently.

The Army's response to the phenomenon has been to allow soldiers free use of their weapons against masked suspects. But some soldiers complain the orders are confusing, and critics say there is trend toward shooting first and asking questions later.

The soldiers call the masked men "raoul," abbreviated Hebrew for "the covered faces," because most wrap their heads in red- or black-checked headscarves known as keffiyehs.

"If they put on masks, it means they want to hurt us. They have either knives or firebombs, and we must protect ourselves. It's self-defence, a question of life," reserve capt. Zaroka, 34, said as his jeep whipped around a corner onto Palestine street.

Zaroka, a computer software expert who gave only his first name in keeping with Army regulations, was on patrol with a vice-president of a fertilizer company, a Pecan farmer, a shopkeeper and an insurance claims adjuster.

All in their late 30s, the reservists fought together in the 1973 Yom Kippur war and the Lebanon invasion. Now they were serving their fourth tour here since the December 1987 start of the intifada, or Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

Because of their experience, the troops see themselves as less likely than young conscripts to get rattled and open fire without reason.

Yehuda, who owns an auto-parts store, said he would not use his weapon to shoot at children who threw stones or burned tires, but he would use it as a last resort against the masked activists.

There are increasing reports from other reservists returning from duty in the occupied territories that restrictions on opening fire are often ignored by commanders in the field.

Elisha Shapira, a reserve lieutenant colonel and head of the Socialist Kibbutz Artzi Collective Farm Movement, said on national TV he had seen such excesses during his own reserve tours and heard of others from the movement's members.

"The fact is that in the field, many irregular incidents are going on and soldiers are carrying out dozens and dozens of illegal orders," Shapira said. "The army's high command is making great efforts to protect our society's norms but up to now we are seeing many deviations."

The Army said 80 Israelis have been tried for breaching orders, with sentences ranging from suspended terms to 4-12 years in jail.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin recently eased firing restrictions as part of a stepped-up campaign against the masked bands. He allowed soldiers to use live ammunition instead of plastic bullets when opening fire on masked men who refuse orders to halt.

Army spokesmen say that in making arrests of masked activists, soldiers must shout warnings and fire in the air before they are allowed to shoot at a fleeing suspect — first at the legs and then at the body.

A 30-year-old soldier who recently returned from a month of reserve duty in the Gaza Strip said many soldiers were confused about frequently changing and complex orders about when they were allowed to shoot. This led some to refrain from using their weapons altogether, while others felt encouraged to fire freely.

In practice, the reserve soldiers said, speaking on condition of anonymity, the whole procedure of shouting, then firing, can take only a second or two, especially if the task is divided by four soldiers.

One top Army officer, who showed a reporter a new 10-page pamphlet of rules recently issued to soldiers on opening fire, denied there had been an increase in cases of brutality or other deviations from the orders.

"The big majority of commanders and soldiers believe the orders are clear enough even though they do not give the exact solution for every case or possible situation," he said.

Quote me

"Reason tells me that it would be better not to play. But I know the desire to get back on the field will prevail — who knows, maybe for 20 or 30 minutes. But the fans can be sure of one thing: Maradona, number one in the world, will be back." — Argentine and Napoli captain, Diego Maradona, on the opening match of his defence of the UEFA Cup against Sporting Lisbon.

"What is truly un-British is to admit we have spies. And the present prime minister is so imbued with Victorian principles that she is not more likely to ask about British spies in public than she is to raise the subject of sex at dinner parties." — Cambridge University historian Christopher Andrew comments in an interview on the British secret service.

"We are for peace and we are ready for talks with Iraq any time, any place within the framework of the UN Resolution 598 and no more." — Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian foreign minister on the stalled Iraq-Iran peace talks.

"I still don't know if I'm physically in conditions to sprint and score goals." — Argentine captain Diego Maradona expressing doubts about his fitness.

"For the sake of the security and prosperity of the world as a whole, petroleum producing and consuming countries need to communicate at various levels to exchange information on the supply and demand of oil." — Naoki Kuroda, director-general of petroleum at Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) on responsible use of petroleum.

"Tomorrow he will become president of South Africa but Frederik Willem de Klerk will be the last white president of South Africa and I believe will be the shortest." — Rev Allan Boesak, president world reform churches planning de Klerk, South African president-designate.

MIDEAST

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran repudiates

NICOSIA, Sept 13, (AP): The Foreign Affairs Commission of the Iranian Parliament today repudiated earlier statements by the head of the commission calling for rapid efforts to restore ties with Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported. The agency quoted the commission as saying in a statement that comments made by Rajaei Khorassani last week "did not reflect views of the Foreign Affairs Commission."

Equal relations

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 13, (AP): Soviet politician and writer Chingiz Aitmatov says that if Moscow renews diplomatic relations with Israel, it would have to be based "on the principle of equality" with Arab countries. Aitmatov, the most senior Soviet official to visit Israel in more than two decades, also told the Associated Press that he believed Palestinians should have an autonomous area or independent state in the region.

Cyprus settlement

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 13, (AP): UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said yesterday that talks on reunifying the divided island of Cyprus have reached "the critical juncture" and a settlement seems possible. "For the first time in the 25-year history of the problem, the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities have personally committed themselves to a sustained effort to achieve an overall settlement," he wrote in his annual work report.

Nicosia denial

NICOSIA, Sept 13, (AP): The Greek Cypriot government has denied reports that Turkish guerrillas, opposed to Turkey, were being trained on the war-divided Mediterranean island. Cyprus news agency quoted Interior Minister Christodoulos Yfantiadis as saying such reports were "ridiculous." He said, "There has never been and is no possibility nor will there ever be."

Legal status

ALGIERS, Sept 13, (Reuters): Algeria has legalised the Communist Party, banned since 1962, in a move to end its military dictatorship, the state-run newspaper El-Moudjahid said. It said the Vanguard Socialist Party, the successor to the Communist Party, was given legal status by the Interior Ministry on Sept 10 after applying last month.

Opposition urges

ALGIERS, Sept 13, (Reuters): An Algerian opposition group has urged constitutional changes to clarify whether the president can sack prime ministers without parliamentary backing. The group, the Committee of National Liberties, which represents several opposition parties, said last Saturday a presidential dismissal of Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah had been "improper and precipitous."

Ozal visit

ANKARA, Sept 13, (Reuters): Prime Minister Turgut Ozal will seek Spain's support for Turkey in its row with Bulgaria over ethnic Turks when he visits Madrid starting on Thursday. Foreign Ministry sources said, Ozal, the first premier to visit fellow NATO member Spain in 30 years, also wants support for Turkey's 1987 applications for full European Community membership.

Zionist dies

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 13, (AP): Aryeh Dubin, former chairman of the World Zionist Organisation and the Jewish Agency, died today of a prolonged kidney illness, hospital officials said. He was 76. Dubin was born in Minsk, Russia, and lived in Mexico until immigration to Israel in 1956. He served as a minister without portfolio in Prime Minister Golda Meir's cabinet in the late 1960s as a member of the Liberal Party.

Hostage's birthday

WASHINGTON, Sept 13, (AP): Congress is being asked to designate US journalist Terry Anderson's birthday next month as a national day of prayer for the eight US citizens held hostage in Lebanon. US Congressman Paul Henry, a Republican, yesterday introduced a joint resolution to mark Oct 27 as national hostage awareness day. The resolution says church bells should be rung for one minute at noon that day.

Quake jolts Iran

NICOSIA, Sept 13, (AP): A relatively strong earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale today jolted an area in Iran near Gorgan at the southeast corner of the Caspian Sea, the official Islamic Republic news agency reported. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

Hussein visit

MAAN, Sept 13, (AP): King Hussein made a triumphant visit today to his desert oasis city where riots over price rises broke out in April. Thousands of people jammed streets decorated with flowers, banners and pictures of the king as Hussein drove by in an open-topped car, waving to the crowds.

Arafat has right to address assembly: UN chief

NICOSIA, Sept 13, (Agencies): United Nations chief Javier Perez de Cuellar said in remarks published today PLO leader Yasser Arafat had a right to address the world body.

"I believe that all the parties which suffer international problems have the right to talk before the United Nations," the secretary-general told Al Hayyat newspaper.

He told the London-based Arabic language daily that PLO chairman Arafat "did not tell me anything concerning his (intentions) to come to New York" when he met him during the

non-aligned summit in Belgrade.

Washington-denied Arafat a US visa last year to go to the UN headquarters in New York. The General Assembly session was moved to the European headquarters in Geneva where Arafat offered Israel peace negotiations in his address to the world body.

He later renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist, prompting the United States to reopen a dialogue in December with the group it once regarded as a terrorist organisation.

Perez de Cuellar yesterday painted a

bleak picture of events in the Middle East, especially the Israeli-occupied territories and Lebanon.

"The situation in the Middle East remains a profound and intense concern," he wrote in his annual work report on the state of the world, "not only because of the political principles at stake, but also because of the widespread human suffering caused by failure to resolve those issues."

Hopes for early progress in the peace process "have sadly given way to mistrust and doubt among the parties concerned," he said.

Bilateral efforts to promote a dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians have been unsuccessful thus far, the secretary-general said. He added that his own constant attempts to pave the way for negotiations, including contacts at the highest levels on both sides and with the Security Council, have been "frustratingly inconclusive."

Meanwhile, he said, the crisis in the Israeli-occupied territories worsens, with hundreds killed and thousands wounded or detained since the Palestinian uprising began in 1987.

He said the Security Council

repeatedly has called on Israel to observe international conventions on protection of civilians in time of war. Despite appeals by the international community, however, widespread violation of human rights persists.

However, the secretary-general said the political aspects of the problem must be addressed before daily confrontations in the territories end.

He called on all parties concerned to grasp the urgent need for negotiations based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, "taking fully into account the legitimate rights of the Palestinian

people, including that of self-determination."

"The longer such a process is delayed," Perez de Cuellar said, "the greater will be the difficulties in initiating it and the more explosive the situation can become."

In addition, he said, the world is appalled by the steady disintegration of Lebanon and by the unprecedented violence by all parties involved in the conflict.

On Aug 15, the secretary-general requested an urgent meeting of the Security Council on Lebanon.

Israel debates Egyptian plan

US diplomat's car set ablaze

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Sept 13, (Agencies): Israeli leaders today discussed ideas put up by Egypt on ways to break an impasse over Middle East peace efforts, but then clamped an unusual gag on further debate.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir met his top three ministers — Vice Premier Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin — to discuss 10 proposals made by Egypt in response to an Israeli peace initiative for the occupied territories.

After the meeting, aides were unusually tight-lipped.

"It was an internal discussion, and it doesn't mean we are ready to talk about details of the peace plan," Yossi Alhimer, Shamir's spokesman, told Reuters.

The same clampdown was evident when the 12-member inner cabinet met afterwards. Shamir barred discussion on the proposals by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Israel Radio reported.

Hassan rejects Shamir plan

Israel must give up land for peace

WASHINGTON, Sept 13, (AP): The Crown Prince of Jordan is demanding that Israel agree to relinquish the West Bank and Gaza Strip in exchange for peace, and is accusing the Jewish state of trying to drive a wedge between Palestinians and the PLO.

In a major policy speech here last night, Prince Hassan disavowed any Jordanian intention to represent the Palestinians. At a news conference earlier, Hassan dismissed as a "pipe dream" the idea among some Israeli politicians that Jordan would agree to a deal to resume control of the West Bank.

Speaking after meetings with US President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker III, the prince said Israel and the United States should accept the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians. And, he said, the United States should recognise that the PLO is entitled to a pivotal role in any peace negotiations.

Dismissing a plan by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for elections among Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza, the prince said, "the purpose is to drive a wedge between them and their recognised leadership."

Hassan said an overall agreement could only be negotiated at an international peace conference that included the PLO and the Soviet Union.

"Jordan will not represent the Palestinian people at the conference," he said. "Nor will it negotiate the settlement of the Palestinian problem on behalf of the PLO."

He said Jordan was willing to attend such a peace conference as part of a mixed delegation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The prince, referring to the West Bank, Gaza, the Golan Heights and the portion of Jerusalem absorbed by Israel after the 1967 war, said his government did not accept the acquisition of territory by war.

"Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories has to be the basis for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the establishment of a just and lasting peace," Hassan said.

Hassan told reporters after he saw Baker that the Bush administration should permit PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to address the United Nations in New York.

"We think Arafat should be granted diplomatic recognition," Hassan said after a 45-minute meeting with Baker.

At a news conference later, Hassan called Mubarak's proposal worthwhile, but said a settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute required an international peace conference.

"We see the Egyptian proposals as a mechanism for holding elections," he said.

Hassan met with Bush at the White House for about 15 minutes. He told reporters that they discussed generalities.



Hassan in the White House

US President George Bush (right) meets with Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan in the White House. (Reuters wirephoto)

\$1.5 m offer to anyone for bringing Hanging Gardens of Babylon back to life

BABYLON, Iraq, Sept 13, (Reuters): Iraq, trying to recover its Babylonian heritage, is offering a reward to anyone who can restore the marvel of one of the world's seven ancient wonders.

President Saddam Hussein has offered a \$1.5 million prize to the engineer who can bring the legendary Hanging Gardens of Babylon back to life.

The gardens, an array of terraced roof gardens conceived by the biblical King Nebuchadnezzar, fell into ruin more than 2,000 years ago. No confirmed traces have been found.

The Iraqi news agency INA said engi-

neers would be asked to match their ancestors' skills and water the ancient king's creation in the way it was so many centuries ago.

Already Iraq has begun recreating the gardens, built then on 23-metre (75-foot) stone arches and fed to a fantastic height above sea level by waters from the Euphrates river.

The challenge is part of Saddam's project to recapture the glory of the ancient Mesopotamian capital, also the legendary site of the biblical Tower of Babel.

Saddam has signed an open cheque to

rebuild the city which witnessed the carving of the first laws in the history of mankind.

For the 52-year-old president, the city's rebirth is a symbol of resistance to Iran, Iraq's foe in the Gulf war, which seized Babylon in 539-538 BC.

"Babylon will not burn twice," he insists.

Workers are now toiling under a scorching sun to put the final touches on the latest renovation phase ahead of an international music festival later this month.

The festival will recreate musical and artistic performances from the era of

Nebuchadnezzar's 43-year reign which ended when the Persians captured the city. Artists from 40 countries will take part.

Hotels, restaurants, playgrounds, theatres and cinemas — many designed in ancient Babylonian architecture — will rise in what officials are billing "the biggest tourist city in the Middle East."

Yet much about Babylon's roots remains a mystery.

Nebuchadnezzar, ruler of an empire which included present-day Iraq, spent his entire reign building Babylon.

He is said to have built the gardens as a gift to his wife Amyitis.



Everything in ruins

A Muslim girl stands on the rubble of her destroyed house in West Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

Masood launches offensive

Contacts with Zahir raise settlement hopes

ISLAMABAD, Sept 13, (Agencies): The best-known Afghan rebel commander, Ahmad Shah Masood, has launched a long-awaited offensive along a 50-km (30-mile) front, a spokesman for his Jamiat-i-Islami Party said today.

"The operation is very successful," the spokesman said, but added that he had almost no details.

Masood's men struck on Monday in four places along or near the strategic Salang highway north of Kabul, he said. They were Salang, Jabul-us-Seraj, Gharikar and the giant military airbase at Baghram.

Their aim was apparently to disrupt traffic on the highway, lifeline for President Najibullah's Soviet-backed government and main supply route for Kabul.

Afghan rebels pounded Kabul airport with rockets today, killing two people and riddling a UN

envoy's plane with shrapnel.

A government spokesman said mujahedeen fired at least 15 rockets at the airport. Two people were killed and four were injured.

Witnesses reported seeing an Antonov-12 military plane engulfed in flames at the adjacent military airbase during the rocket attack.

Benon Sevan, the head of the UN Good-Offices Mission on Afghanistan and Pakistan, was unhurt in the attack.

His plane, damaged by rocket fragments, left for Pakistan later in the day, a UN spokesman said.

The Jamiat spokesman, speaking by telephone from the northwest Pakistani city of Peshawar, said Masood had radioed with news of the attack. Independent confirmation was not available.

Meanwhile, in Kabul, a Foreign Ministry official said meetings between former

Afghan King Zahir Shah and US envoys could lead towards a settlement in the 10-year Afghan war.

"It is a vivid sign that Washington is coming to the conclusion that the military option is not a sound bet and they should begin a new political means," said spokesman Mohammed Nabi Amani.

Richard Boucher, a State Department spokesman, said on Monday that a US emissary met with Zahir Shah in April and again last Friday in Rome, and more meetings were planned with the 74-year-old former king.

"We would not have a negative reaction" if Zahir Shah were given a visa to enter Pakistan, Amani said.

Amani also reported continued fighting around the border city of Khost. The mujahedeen last month launched a massive offensive against the city.

Menem defends links with Arabs

LONDON, Sept 13, (Reuters): Argentine President Carlos Menem defended in remarks published today his country's military co-operation with Arab states and said he would not let the United States pressure him on the issue.

"There is nothing to stop such co-operation, what prohibits us from manufacturing weapons and selling them to friends?"

Ethiopia denies talks on verge of collapse

ADDIS ABABA, Sept 13, (Reuters): The Ethiopian government denied today a Reuters report which quoted President Mengistu Haile Mariam as saying peace talks with rebels in the northern province of Eritrea were on the verge of collapse.

"The president did not say the talks were on the verge of collapse. On the contrary, he renewed the commitment of the Ethiopian government to press ahead with the search for peace," an Information Ministry spokesman said.

Reuters had quoted Mengistu as saying in a speech on Monday that the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) was not showing any commitment to peace at the talks in Atlanta, Georgia, and that the government delegation was doing all it could to prevent them from collapsing over trivial matters.

But the government spokesman said Mengistu's unofficial translation of Mengistu's speech, which was delivered in Amharic, was inaccurate.

The official translation of Mengistu's speech, which was published in the government-run Ethiopian Herald today, quoted the president as saying: "We have endeavoured to see on our part that the search for peace should not be hampered with trivial matters and that it should be continued with a view to bringing to an end the misery and suffering the people are subjected to due to the war. To this end we shall not relent from doing all that is necessary."

From the information that has reached us so far, the opposition does not appear to have been prepared for peace and if this process continues it will publicly be known shortly, not only to the Ethiopian people, but to the entire world as well, who stands for peace and who does not."

Fighting flares amid peace bid

BEIRUT, Sept 13, (Agencies): Syrian and Christian forces skirmished in and around Beirut today, killing three people and wounding 17, as Arab mediators were reported to be preparing to reactivate a stalled peace effort.

A spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said the Syrians and the Christians, besieged in their enclave north of Beirut, clashed with artillery, mortars and machine guns along the front lines in Beirut, north Lebanon and the mountains on the eastern edge of the enclave.

But he said the residential sectors of the capital, badly hammered since fighting erupted on March 8, were spared in the sporadic day-long clashes.

The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria were scheduled to meet in Saudi Arabia's Red Sea port of Jeddah later today to discuss resuming a peace effort that ran out of steam six weeks ago.

They said on July 28 that their mediation mission, assigned by an Arab summit in May, had reached a dead end. They blamed Syria for refusing to accept a timetable for pulling out its 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

Informed sources in Jeddah, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the mediation committee was considering a peace plan that calls, among other things, for a cease-fire and the lifting of blockades by both sides.

Beirut's independent An-Nahar daily, the leftist As-Safir as well as Muslim and Christian radio stations said that the committee will declare a cease-fire shortly.

The Muslim Voice of the Nation radio said the committee agreed to resume its efforts after "receiving Arab and international guarantees that its decisions will be respected," but did not specifically mention Syria.

The Christian-run Voice of Lebanon said "hopes are high that the tripartite committee will succeed in stabilising the situation in Lebanon."

An-Nahar said the Nationalist Front, a coalition of 18 leftist and Muslim groups allied with Syria and Iran, was expected to facilitate the committee's effort by proclaiming a cease-fire in "the coming hours."

Iran ready for peace: Velayati

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 13, (Agencies): Iran is prepared to resume peace talks with Iraq at "any time, any place" under the auspices of the United Nations (UN), Iranian Foreign Minister Dr Ali Akbar Velayati said here today.

"We are ready for talks to implement in full the UN Security Council resolution 598 on the Gulf war for a lasting peace in the region," he told a news conference at the end of his two-day official visit to Malaysia.

But, he claimed, Iraq had refused to implement the four-point plan proposed by the UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar and put forward pre-conditions.

Iraq had demanded implementation of the Security Council resolution at the given order.

Velayati said Iraq had refused to withdraw from Iranian territory which was an important condition for any meaningful discussions between the two sides.

Iran is demanding Iraq withdrawal from about 2,600 square km of its territory while Iraq insists on first clearing war debris from the Shatt Al Arab waterway, its outlet to the Gulf.

Velayati claimed that the pre-conditions imposed by Iraq had resulted in the stalemate in the Iran-Iraq peace talks which opened on Aug 25 last year, five days after the UN-brokered ceasefire went into effect.

Jasmine flowers again and again and spreads the sweet smell

JASMINE, by Bharati Mukherjee (Grove Press, 241 pp., \$17.95) WHEN you get to the end of 'Jasmine' by Bharati Mukherjee, you want to shout go for it for it.

It's the story of an Indian girl from the Punjab whose life goes from one tragedy to another, while she survives with cunning and a bravura born of fear.

From widowhood in the Punjab, Jyoti of Hasnapur becomes Jasmine of Manhattan and then Jane Ripplera of Baden, Elsa County, Iowa, blending, changing to meet new circumstances.

Her arrival in the United States aboard a smuggler's boat is brutal, murderous, but fate and kind hearts pass her to flushing, NY to a sojourn

with her late husband's old professor. Escaping from the restrictions of that emigre Indian community she becomes a nurse in Manhattan, and the Jasmine flower blossoms as 'caregiver,' student and gentle lover.

But the idyll is broken and, driven by terror westward, she becomes Jane, once again caregiver and lover to a middle-aged, paraplegic banker, and surrogate mother to Du, a young Vietnamese.

When her Manhattan connection is reestablished, she takes the lessons learned and the Jasmine flowers again.

Mukherjee, a native of India and now a New York resident, creates prose that floats like the gold-edge of a sari in a gentle breeze.

BICYCLE DAYS, By John Burnham

Schwartz (Summit, 253 pp., \$18.95) OCCASIONALLY a young author comes along and shocks the literary world with a sterling first novel. John Burnham Schwartz is not one of them.

His novel, 'Bicycle Days,' is the story of Alec Stern, a young Yale graduate testing the waters of expatriate life in Japan.

The book, originally a senior thesis, helped Schwartz, 23, earn a degree from Harvard but it is not likely to earn him much money.

Schwartz's characters are superficial and his descriptions of life in Japan rarely go beyond the clichés familiar to anyone who has ever visited or read about Japan.

The book's worst fault is it simply

fails to entertain.

Schwartz does little more than trot out the now familiar images of crowded subways and workaholic businessmen.

His portrayal of Japanese women is a welcome exception as he avoids the submissive Japanese woman stereotype.

As a coming of age novel set in Japan, Schwartz has stiff competition from two 1985 novels — Brad Leithauser's 'Equal Distance' and John David Morley's 'Pictures From the Water Trade' which gave readers more insight into Japan wrapped around more entertaining tales.

BLESSINGS, By Belva Plain (Delacorte, 340 pp., \$19.95) 'Blessings' is another triumph for

the author of 'Tapestry' and 'Evergreen.'

Jennie Rakowsky is our heroine — and what a heroine she is, poised, a gutsy lawyer — on the brink of marrying the man of her dreams.

But out of her past comes the child she put up for adoption, and the man who abandoned and betrayed her. Her triumphant tower of fortune starts to crumble and her dreams and fears come home to roost with the future holding nothing but pain and fear.

'Blessings' is a story of being torn to the eyes as Jennie faces her past and the final revelations to her fiancé, Jay. The characters are real people with foibles and passions.

'Blessings' is a masterpiece of storytelling magic.

THE TEMPLE DOGS, By Warren Murphy and Molly Cochran (NAL, 327 pp., \$18.95)

American businessmen have been taking a beating from Japanese businessmen for years and in 'The Temple Dogs' by Warren Murphy and Molly Cochran the Japanese win again.

Only this time it's the Japanese underworld, the Yakuza, pitted against the Mafia.

Miles Haverford, an attorney who is part Japanese, seeks vengeance on the top mafia gang in New York when his sister Susi and her husband are slain on their wedding day by the son of a mafia overlord. Haverford, who up until that time had denied his Japanese roots, goes to Japan to seek help from an old

family friend, who just happens to head the Onami, the most powerful Yakuza gang in Japan.

Haverford steps into the clandestine, ritualistic world of the Yakuza and in the process regains his Japanese heritage.

Murphy and Cochran, who are winners of the 1984 Edgar Award, have collaborated in the past on works like 'Grandmaster' and 'High Priest.' This work is a taut novel imbued with a philosophical interpretation of Japan's rigid class structure.

It has the martial arts mayhem, gritty characters and off-beat dialogue characteristic of other similar works but is set apart by its striving to interpret the forces that have shaped Japanese life. And it succeeds on all levels.

Indian stars in political jungle

My entry into the film world was totally unplanned: Meenakshi

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

INDIANS will go to poll for parliament this year and before the year is over should be decided which party will be guiding the country's destiny. In such a crucial period, film stars with their popularity can't be far behind. Some will take a headline plunge, and others will be supporting from the sidelines. Anyway the games are all afoot.

Amitabh Bachchan, Sunil Dutt, Rajesh Khanna and ex-star Vijayantimala are of course arraigned behind the ruling Congress (I). Amitabh's choice to stand for election again (after last year's fiasco) was kept shrouded in uncertainty. Though rumours kept floating that he would stand from Allahabad again.

Indirectly he kept doing subtle propaganda through his different agencies as well as in his film dialogue and songs. The "Toofan" song promoted family planning (only two children) and also said that there problems all around, but people must recite: 'don't worry, be happy' and in turn be happy. Sunil Dutt has been quietly doing the work in his constituency where there are lots of slums along with a small pocket of very rich houses. Rajesh Khanna belongs to the same area and his interests are clashing with Sunil, who has already stopped the demolition of tin huts and in fact got them rebuilt.

Sunil Dutt may ask for an election ticket from the same zone as Rajesh Khanna. Khanna is said to have met the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and asked to be made a candidate from this safe constituency. This request is a bit risky for the party, since Dutt's work is any day more intense than Khanna's. Besides Sunil is much more popular.

Many a film star has been called for canvassing despite the fact that the stunt usually boomerangs. For example, Sri Devi and Vijayantimala failed in Tamil Nadu, like Arun Govil and Dara Singh in UP.

On the other hand, the opposition is also bolstered by stars. Raj Babbar has boldly supported and sided with V.P. Singh. Babbar could contest and win from Agra. Shatrughan Sinha has got his stronghold in Patna or any place in Bihar. He boasts that he would win hands down but was hunting for the right party to get him a ticket. Shabana Azmi has shown her true colours by opting for the Communist Party and Papa Kailash's native place Azamgarh as the constituency. Former Star N.T. Rama Rao who is already leading the opposition rule in Andhra Pradesh has set himself firmly against the Congress for the coming elections, through the National Front.

Each is trying and preparing the utmost to win the ballot battle. It has also led to some strange and funny situation. NTR started a Telugu-Hindi film 'Brah-

marshi Viswamitra' with lot of fanfare, collecting all the opposition leaders for the launching. He himself decided to play the title role, eight years after he left acting. He got songs recorded in Asha Bhonsle's voice. And for the heroine, Menaka's roles, he chose Meenakshi Sheshadri.

The film is meant to be a media campaign for the Telugu Desam Party, as the mythological symbol is only an excuse to attack the Congress policies. But NTR's dream ran into rough weather. He wants to complete the film before November. And five writ petitions were filed in the Andhra High Court, challenging how a chief minister could neglect his duties to work as an actor and producer. The film is also a strange fix in which Meenakshi finds herself. While she may earn money and glamour, she will be dubbed anti-Congress. The stick of tax-raids could be waved at her. And if she backs out of the film, she would incur the wrath of a whole province from where she herself hails.

Another political game to thwart NTR is the quick starting of Kaliyuga Vishwamitra by Telugu producer U. Suryanarayana Babu, which will condemn NTR's politics. It will be shot very quickly and Menaka will be played by Mandakini of 'Ganga Maali' fame. Does this make Manda a pro-Congress campaigner?

Yet one more ruse is the making of a TV serial 'Vishwamitra' by Dasari Narayan Rao featuring Mukesh Khanna. The clearance was got rather too quickly. Raj Babbar meanwhile has been trying to attack the present establishment through his films 'Andher Gardi' and 'Agnikaal' as against Amitabh's films, like 'Satyam' and 'Agnipath'. The most amusing battle of wits took place between opponents Shatrughan Sinha and Rajesh Khanna when they were brought on the same platform. Each made tongue-in-cheek attacks on the other's party and leader. Shatrughan said that politics had indeed become a dirty game. He also attacked Amitabh for entering politics and yet not serving the people. And surprisingly he had a good word for Sunil Dutt. Poor Rajesh buckled under Shatrughan's thunder.

Q. When did you make your entry into the arts?

A. When I was young my mother used to run a class for Bharat Natyam dance and I would go over and watch her as well as the students and also try to imitate them. Seeing my interest my mother started teaching me separately. I made my first stage appearance when I was hardly five.



Shatrughan (right) praises Sunil Dutt, though belonging to different political shades.



Meenakshi: warm and funny

Q. And your coming films?

A. It was totally unplanned. I had never thought of cinema. I had filled up a form for a "Miss India" contest and was surprised when I was declared the winner. I got my break. When Manoj Kumar saw me in TV programmes and called me up. He was looking for a heroine for 'Painter Babu' so I auditioned for the part and I got it, and the rest is history.

Q. Did you get disappointed when you tasted failure?

A. For some time, yes. I realised that becoming a film heroine was no piece of cake. A big effort was needed. Luckily I was not given up as a one-film flop. They started giving me chances. So I continued. Doing something is better than doing nothing.

Q. What made you keep your chin up during the struggle?

A. My zeal and will power. I was prepared for all hardships during shooting. I also eagerly picked up the nuan-

ces of acting, in bits and pieces.

Q. You are one of the few single actresses. Any plans for marriage?

A. I haven't thought much about marriage but I feel every woman must stand on her feet, whether married or not. She must keep working to get some income and be self-dependent. About marriage plans, things happen to you, one can't really plan anything.

Q. Do you like the industry?

A. Of course, where else do you get so much money, fame, wish fulfillment and pampering? I am very happy as an actress.

Q. Any unfulfilled desire?

A. To play comic roles, full of pep, like 'Love Marriage' and the first part of 'Hero'. They don't give me roles like that. Though I am asking directors, who prefer me, to come forward with such stuff.

Q. What is this reputation of

"thandi Meenakshi"?

A. The way these glossy magazines write, people may think I am some ancient ice-berg which refuses to melt. In real life I am the opposite. But I am not very comfortable with strangers. I only hope that by thandi, the Press does not mean my not having 'hot' hero affairs. In that case, I would prefer to remain totally 'cold'.

Q. Anita Raj thinks that marriage should not stop a saleable star from acting and making money. She has proved it in her own brother's "Taqtatwar", how much she can expose opposite the tough and silent Sunjay Dutt. Now she is back at it after marriage and even child. Her fitness exercises and dieting helped her to regain what most heroines fail to get.

A. I feel obliged to remind the young enthusiasts that Dotty was only resting and would soon be on her way. Dotty made a liar out of me. By the third day, it became perfectly clear that this bird wasn't taking a "wee rest". She was having a full-scale holiday. And why not? Thanks to the kids' efforts, she now had a luxury suite and gourmet meals on demand. She was becoming so fat and contented that she might never want to fly again.

TV serial 'Mahabharat' was

becoming so exotic that people called the scene of disrobing Draupadi as 'Draupadi Cabaret' and waited anxiously for it. Newspapers gave quite a wide coverage of how she would have her sari being snatched (and getting it replaced by Krishna's miracle). They even gave the name of the textile company which provided heaps of this sari. Meanwhile Roopa Ganguli, the TV Draupadi, went and did a break dance for another film and that too at the Hare Krishna temple. She did not need any Krishna there.

Good actresses bounce back like a bad coin. South's Radha had once failed in 'Kasamyaab' (meaning successful). So she is trying her luck again with 'Khai Kanon Ka'. But the film is not making much progress. Guess, everyone can't be a Sri Devi.

Hassan Jahangir's parting kick while going away from India was that girls need to call him up at all times of the night. He added that Indians gals are more open in their adoration but Pakistan's damsels are very conservative. What he did not reveal was that he too used to put on powder and make-up for appearing in public (and vowing the girls).

Small-finner Sonu Walia and Sumet Saigal also have their own small-time dating, in small-time discos, of small-time suburban hotels.

Neeta Puri is becoming quite a scandal-sack. To avoid the fact of being dropped by Srikant Nahta, she picked up fights on his sets, punched his assistants and used unprintable language. Then she coolly declared that she had left Nahta as well as his film.

Anita Singh: There is no marriage on the cards with Vinod Khanna. If we are happy this way, why not? I have told him my decision. He will have to get used to it.

Salma Agha: My dress in 'Jungle Ki Beti' was far more respectable. These days actresses wear bikinis for no rhyme or reason. And my film even had a U certificate.

Shakti Kapoor: I shall be the No. 1 very soon. Not as a villain, not as a hero, but as an actor. And I want the image which my wife wants... a respectable man of the industry.

Dimple Rajesh Khanna loves to create the illusion that he is the GIVER. I thought he was making 'Jai Shiv Shankar' for my daughters. That's why I worked almost free for it.

Govinda: I was lost in work for four years. Just going from one set to another. I did not know how much money is coming in and how much is going out. I will have to be careful now.



A scene from Road House

Loner cleans up

Set to break records

By Shama Seekins

ROAD HOUSE is a homage to the American "Western", set in a present day context using tavern bouncers as the good guys and the unruly customers as the outlaws. Patrick Swayze, continues to hover on the edge of major stardom plays Dalton, a "loner" who comes into town to clean up the Double Deuce, a Missouri saloon.

He is, in fact, the modern day equivalent of Wyatt Earp and bears a reputation on the road house circuit of having the fastest fists in the West. But, Dalton is still bearing the emotional scars of having killed a man in Memphis and instructs his minions to put an end to the nightly saloon brawls with a minimum of force.

However this is easier said than done. Standing in his way is the town bully, Brad Wesley (Ben Gazzara), who makes a good living extorting local businessmen by threatening them with violence at the hands of his toughs. Further complicating the plot is Doc (Kelly Lynch), Wesley's estranged sister, who now has eyes for Dalton.

The increasing tension comes to a head with a martial arts version of the classic Western gun duel between Dalton and Wesley's top goon.

BATMAN looks set to break all the records for cinema receipts, after one of the biggest advertising campaigns ever for a film they have already passed the \$200 million mark. Is it as good as all that? Well, for those that didn't want to wait to see the good copy that has just been released, I think the answer would probably have been a "no". But now that one can see and above all hear what is going on, it has to be a "yes".

Michael Keaton plays a kind of "everyman" hero, no muscular Rambo here, who tries to put some order back into Gotham City, a kind of Manhattan, but worse. His mother and father were killed in front of him when he was only five years old and to get revenge he has decided to become BATMAN. As soon as a criminal act takes place, the brilliant businessman puts down his "Wall Street Journal", gets his English butler to iron his cape and sets off to right wrongs. It starts to get complicated when Kim Basinger falls in love with the masked avenger, The Joker, brilliantly played by Jack Nicholson, will not allow this and the battle heats up.

SHADOW DANCING stars Nadine van der Velde as an aspiring young dancer and Christopher Plummer as the ageing owner of the theatre where she gets her big break. But Jesswica (Nadine) soon finds her personality undergoing a radical change as she begins to enact key moments in the life of Liliane LaNuit, a beautiful dancer who died on stage fifty years before.

ANOTHER CHANCE stars Bruce Greenwood as John Ripley a young actor who has everything he could ask for... money, a fast car and all the girls he wants, until he meets Jackie (Vanessa Angel). For the first time in his life he falls in love and stays faithful to one woman. Then in a moment of weakness he falls prey to the temptress and consequently loses Jackie. Will he get another chance to regain his lost love or is he unable to mend his ways?

TO HEAL A NATION is another telling of the Vietnam story. When Jan Scruggs returns from the war, he was unable to forget his comrades who died so senselessly, and decided to devote himself to making sure that they would be regarded as heroes.

A NIGHT AT THE MAGIC CASTLE is a good story for children; a ten-year-old boy spends some time with the ghost of Harry Houdini and has many adventures at the Magic Castle.

Dotty for Dotty which made a few friends during an interlude

Maybe on her next flight she'll make a detour for old times' sake

By Kathy Cuddihy

"THERE'S a pigeon on the front lawn," my mother announced to me at our Irish cottage this summer.

"I don't think so, Mom. There aren't any pigeons in this area. Maybe you saw a seagull?"

"Don't be ridiculous. I know the difference between a pigeon and a seagull. What I saw was a pigeon."

"OK, Mom, let's go have a look," I agreed, trying not to sound patronising.

We surveyed the active area but could find no evidence of a pigeon. Nor of a seagull. Nevertheless my mother remained adamant. "I tell you I saw a pigeon."

An hour later the scenario repeated itself. "It's back. That pigeon is strutting across the lawn like it's mapping territory."

"Well, let's hope that this time it stays around long enough so that we can make a positive identification. Not that I have any doubts about your accuracy, Mom," I added hastily.

Sure enough, there on the lawn stood a true-blue pigeon, its chest puffed proudly, seemingly waiting for us to pay homage. We approached cautiously. In order not to frighten the bird, we made soothing pigeon noises, feeling only faintly silly. Except for frequent eye-blinking, the bird didn't move a muscle. Amazing. Perhaps our cooing and clucking meant something intelligible to

the creature, because suddenly it hopped onto my arm, not a fear in the world. Noticing bands on its legs, I immediately understood why it was so tame.

"This bird belongs to someone. We should phone the local police and give them the band numbers. Then if anyone reports a lost pigeon, they can tell them it was last seen here," I suggested.

To my disappointment, the police did not display as much concern about the bird as we did.

"Sure, it's probably only a racing pigeon taking a wee rest. Don't bother your head. It'll be on its way in no time."

Such logic embarrassed me. Of course it was a racing pigeon. At least, that's the explanation that

made most sense. But this racing pigeon certainly didn't show much inclination to race. In fact, as often as not, it didn't even bother to fly. It either strutted, or perched itself on us for transportation. Sometimes it just snuggled. It didn't even show a marked preference for the great outdoors, because at every opportunity it tried to keep me company in the kitchen.

"This bird is positively dotty," the children declared. "She thinks she's a people."

We had decided that her erratic but lovable behaviour automatically made her a "she". We also decided to call her "Dotty".

On the morning of the second day we were delighted to find

Dotty impatiently tapping at the window, looking for company — or a decent breakfast.

"Dotty probably doesn't eat Crunchy Calories so I'll go out and forage for her," my daughter volunteered.

"And I'll build her a comfy shelter," my son said proudly. I felt obliged to remind the young enthusiasts that Dotty was only resting and would soon be on her way.

Dotty made a liar out of me. By the third day, it became perfectly clear that this bird wasn't taking a "wee rest". She was having a full-scale holiday. And why not? Thanks to the kids' efforts,

she now had a luxury suite and gourmet meals on demand. She was becoming so fat and contented that she might never want to fly again.

A news broadcast cleared up part of the mystery of Dotty's attachment. An explosion on the sun caused interference in the airwaves (or whatever), inhibiting the homing instincts of thousands of racing pigeons. We felt sorry for all those worried owners, but more than a little pleased that we might have Dotty indefinitely.

"Indefinitely" proved to be sadly brief. Two days later there was no morning wake-up from Dotty. We rushed outside and checked her little house: empty. We did find a few downy feathers on the lawn, however.

"Gosh, Mom, you don't think a cat ate her, do you?" asked a

child whose eyes showed signs of imminent tearing.

"No, darling," I said, fighting the lump in my throat. "If a cat had got her there would be signs of a struggle. You know, wing feathers and blood." I tried to convince myself as much as I did them.

The following week another racing pigeon parked itself briefly at a neighbour's place. Its "wee rest" didn't last more than an hour. The airwaves were in order again, it seemed. This gave further credence to my argument that Dotty knew it was time to leave, and had gone of her own free will.

We knew Dotty had come from a good home, because she had such a loving, trusting per-

sonality. But could anyone care for her as much as we had?

"They won't sing her to sleep at night," said one child.

"Or feed her fresh gram and chopped liver for breakfast," said the other.

"Or let her sit on a shoulder to supervise the preparation of dinner," I added with a sigh.

"Or let her fetch the letters from the mailbox," came my mother's sad voice.

"But she'll probably do what she was bred to do: race." I assured everyone. "And who knows? Maybe on her next flight she'll make a detour to visit us — just for old times' sake."

"And a lullaby." "And some liver." "Who knows?"

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Seminar on investment

French economy under review

UNDER the joint sponsorship of Banque Indosuez, head office, Paris, the Bahrain branch, the brokerage firm, Chevreux de Vireux, and Carr Futures International, organised a seminar on investing in the French markets ahead of 1992 on Wednesday at the Kuwait Meridien.

Guy de la Presle, senior vice-president presided on Wednesday.

The bank's specialists reviewed the French economy, the equity, bonds and futures markets. Dr Thierry Apoteker, the chief economist, Banque Indosuez addressed the meeting. Stephen Austen, head of investment, Banque Indosuez Bahrain also attended.

The French economy is the second in Europe, after that of West Germany, with a gross domestic product of almost one thousand billion dollars in 1988.

The economy is supported by a population growth that is more dynamic than that of the other leading European countries, and has a structure that is well diversified as between agriculture, industry and services.

After going through a period of economic recuperation in the early 1980s that was both longer and later-completed than that of the industrial countries in general, France caught up with the rest in 1987-88, and has returned to rapid growth. Corporate investment and exports were the two most dynamic elements in this growth, demonstrating the solid underpinning.

Inflation is now well under control, France is the only major



Guy de la Presle addresses the meeting.

developed country apart from Canada to have kept the 1988 price rise down to below that of the previous year.

It came out at 2.7 per cent, on average, compared with 3.1 per cent in 1987. Since the abandonment in 1983 of price-indexing of wages, the evolution in wage costs has been kept well in hand, and this has enabled disinflation to take place. No deterioration is expected in this situation in 1989, when the price rise is expected again to be in the region of 3 per cent.

The 1988 trade deficit (33 billion francs, \$5.5 billion) is equivalent to only a very small proportion of GDP, and is largely

offset by a surplus on services account.

France is in fact the world's second largest exporter of services, thanks mainly to activities in the financial services, engineering consultancy and tourism fields.

This means that the current account of the balance of payments is close to equilibrium, putting France in an intermediate position between the traditional surplus countries, West Germany and Japan, and the countries with large external deficits (United States, United Kingdom).

The budget deficit, which reached 115 billion francs in 1988,



Some of those who attended the seminar.

should be reduced to 100 billion francs in 1989, equivalent to no more than around 1.5 per cent of GDP. A traditionally austere fiscal policy has meant that public debt has been limited to around 1,400 billion francs, the lowest proportion of GDP of any of the major developed countries.

The disinflation policy of the 1980s permitted a considerable recovery in the financial results of French companies. Their gross margin (ratio of current earnings to value added) was 30 per cent in 1988, higher than it had been before the first oil shock. The corporate savings ratio has also improved, but somewhat more slowly, because of the previous accumulation of

debt. Interest expenditure as a proportion of current earnings has now levelled off at around 10 per cent (around 3 per cent of value added).

An intensive deregulation policy has been applied in France since 1984. The most notable features have been the virtually entire abolition of exchange controls, the elimination of credit restrictions and their replacement by a monetary policy based on interest rates and the de facto anchoring of the French franc to the DM.

This has made possible a rapid expansion of Paris as a financial centre, a movement which was also helped by the privatizations

of 1986-1987. Growth in the Paris market capitalization has been the fastest of all the world's stock markets since the beginning of the 1980s (after Tokyo's).

The confidence expressed in the outlook for the French economy, the spectacular recovery in corporate earnings and the need to restructure French industrial capacity in preparation for the single European market of 1993 have made Paris the leading performer of all the world's main stock markets (Tokyo again excepted) in the past two years.

Senior Kuwaiti banking officials, investment experts and market analysts also attended the seminar.

Dollar dips

UK shares firm

LONDON, Sept 13, (Reuters): The dollar closed a shade weaker in quiet European trading today as dealers sat back to await a batch of US economic data due out on Friday.

London stocks edged back over 2,400 on the 100-share FTSE index after Wall Street opened higher.

"The dollar does not look likely to move much now, but any moves on Friday will make up for the dullness of the rest of the week," said Bank of America trader Gerhard Sunderdick in Frankfurt.

Dealers said the market's mood was still positive but they were reluctant to commit themselves too deeply ahead of the US data including merchandise trade for July and industrial production, capacity utilisation and producer prices for August.

Dealers said Friday's flurry of statistics would overshadow tomorrow's release of US-August retail sales.

Attention would focus on the trade deficit, which is forecast by independent economists to widen to \$8.9 billion from \$8.2 billion in June.

A narrower than expected trade deficit could encourage traders to bid the dollar above two West German marks, but fears about possible central bank intervention could limit any gains.

"Until the data come out the dollar will stay between 1.9750 and 1.99 marks," said one dealer in Frankfurt.

The dollar ended in London at 1.9800 marks and 146.97 Japanese yen after ending Tuesday at 1.9897 and 147.10.

London share prices ended higher in active business, supported by a firmer market tone on Wall Street, dealers said.

The Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 top shares closed 3.9 points up at 2,401.5.

The Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street stood 5.13 points up at 2,712.39 by noon in New York.

Gold bullion closed at \$358.25 an ounce in London, down half a dollar from Tuesday's finish.

Debt burden warned

IMF pleased with economic growth

WASHINGTON, Sept 13, (Reuters): World economic growth has proved to be surprisingly strong, but the burden of debt is still crushing many poor countries, the International Monetary Fund said in its annual report.

The 151-nation lending agency welcomed the continuation of healthy growth in output and investment in the industrial world and said developing nations as a group enjoyed one of their highest growth rates in a decade in 1988.

But the IMF, which oversees the world economy, warned that the current prosperity is threatened on a number of fronts and said governments must co-ordinate their policies better.

The report was originally scheduled to be released yesterday, but due to advice from market news service and other news organisations that they had already issued the story, the report was available for immediate publication.

How to sustain economic growth and ease the burden of Third World debt will be major topics when thousands of officials and bankers gather here next week for the annual meetings of the IMF and its sister agency, the World Bank.

As in the past, the fund aimed its bluntest warning at the United States, whose massive trade deficit remains a major source of vulnerability in the agency's view.

Repeating advice that has become conventional wisdom, the fund said the best way to reduce the trade deficit was to close the government's budget gap, which would allow resources to be channelled into exports without adding to inflation or crowding out investment.

As well as the need for "urgent and forceful" action to reduce the budget deficit, the IMF said measures might also be needed to end the US tax code's bias against private savings.

Plans to float bonds in US

AMMAN, Sept 13, (Reuters): Jordan will float 30-year bonds worth \$50 million in the American market on September 26, a Jordanian official said.

The bonds will be guaranteed by the United States Agency for International Development (Usaid) and the borrowing will be used to support housing projects for low-income families and build up Jordan's foreign exchange reserves, he added.

Jordan owes foreign debt of more than \$7 billion. Arab aid boosted its foreign exchange reserves from \$20 million in May to \$500 million in August.

Plans to intensify gas exploration

Manila seeks energy

SINGAPORE, Sept 13, (AP): Self-reliance in energy will continue to be a key middle- and long-term goal of the Philippines, the president of the Philippine National Oil Company said today.

This means intensification of oil and gas exploration activities, sustained government incentives to domestic and foreign exploration companies, a corresponding downturn in oil imports in proportion to total energy mix, and substantial investments in exploration and development of indigenous energy resources," said Manuel A. Estrella.

"And I can assure you that our government has the political will to pursue these plans," Estrella told delegates attending the Asia-Pacific Petroleum conference.

He said estimated demand for energy will be 135 million barrels of fuel oil equivalent by 1992, an average annual growth of 6.4 per cent of the next four years.

Reliance on imported oil fell from 90 per cent in 1973 to 58.6 per cent last year, he said, but self-reliance still remains years away.

Anat Arbabhahram, governor of the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, said his country's rapid economic growth has been possible only with imported petroleum products as the country's production of gas and oil meets only 35 per cent of domestic demand.

Three refineries have a total capacity of 211,500 barrels daily, he said, and "the demand for petroleum products far exceeds the refining capacity."

He said Thailand imports about 120,000 barrels of finished products daily, and crude oil supply to the refineries consists of about 190,000 imported barrels a day and 23,000 barrels of Thailand's own.

Last year, Thailand consumed 282,000 barrels of oil products daily, and average daily consumption for the first six months of this year rose to 335,000 barrels, Anat said.

Total imports of crude oil and finished products in the first six months of 1989 amounted to \$10.48 billion, and the total 1989 bill "may be as high as \$23.70 million," he added.

Thailand will not increase retail oil prices but will concentrate on energy conservation programmes and increase the efficiency of energy use, especially in transport, he said.

The three-day petroleum conference, which ended today, attracted about 800 delegates from Europe, the United States, Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

Loan row to be reviewed

PARIS, Sept 13, (Reuters): A senior French diplomat will visit Tehran next week to discuss Iran's demand for full repayment of \$1 billion loan made by the late Shah, government sources said today.

They confirmed a report in the satirical and political weekly Le Canard Enchaîné that the mission would be carried out by Francois Scherer, France's Middle East envoy.

The Foreign Ministry declined to comment. Iran has said the improvement of relations between the two countries would depend on settling the dispute. France and Iran have recently resumed ties, which were severed for 11 months between 1987 and 1988 in a dispute over French allegations that Iran's Paris embassy helped terrorists.

Iran says that, with interest, the 1974 loan would be worth \$2 billion.

France has repaid \$630 million in two instalments since 1986. But Paris wants the Iranians to pay compensation to a French firm for breaking a contract to buy uranium.

Oil reserves will last 32 years

LAGOS, Sept 13, (Reuters): Nigeria's proven oil reserves, currently estimated at 16.6 billion barrels, would permit the pumping of crude for another 32 years, according to Petroleum Resources Minister Rilwanu Lukman.

In a speech delivered yesterday, Lukman, who is also president of Opec, said reserves had shrunk from their 1974 peak of 20.9 billion barrels, but their life expectancy had risen.

"With the decline in production... largely in response to adverse world conditions, the life of our crude oil has risen to 32 years," he said.

In the 1970s, high prices and a huge exploration effort coincided with production rising to a 1979 peak of 2.4 million barrels per day (BPD), while the life expectancy of the reserves fell to 20 years, Lukman said.

Production was now around 1.4 million BPD, he said. A 1986 agreement with the major oil companies active in the country encouraged exploration to build reserves.

"The fiscal terms reached with the joint venture partners are constantly under review to ensure that Nigeria remains an attractive zone for oil operations," Lukman said.

World Bank likely to lend \$150m for projects

Jordan looks set to close financing gap for 1989

LONDON, Sept 13, (Reuters): Jordan is likely to need around \$200 to 300 million of new money for the rest of 1989 after successful talks to reschedule its heavy foreign debt burden, country debt analysts at London-based banks said today.

The analysts said that following Jordan's debt rescheduling it was unlikely new funds would come from major UK European or US banks as these organisations would now need to make provisions for possible future non-payment.

Instead, the analysts said, more aid from the Arab world and promised funds for multilateral agencies, like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, will cover the financing gap.

"Pledges of funds from the Arab World, the IMF and World

Bank has closed the financing gap for Jordan until the middle of 1991," one London banker said.

Jordan's current account deficit was estimated at 450 million dinars for 1988 and is seen at around the same level this year.

Jordan officials confirmed on Monday that a committee representing more than 90 Arab and Western banks had agreed to delay principal repayments of \$575 million due between January 1989 and June 1991 on debts of \$1.1 billion.

The agreement on commercial debt followed the rescheduling of government debt agreed with the Paris Club on July 19.

The Paris Club of creditor nations on July 20 agreed to reschedule payments due on certain loans and credits to Jordan over a 10-year period, with five years

grace. The rescheduling was estimated to have saved Jordan \$133 million.

Another Middle East analyst who asked not to be identified said: "It's all hanging together now. The standby facility with the IMF, an injection of new money by the Arab countries and funds from the multilateral agencies following the amortisation agreed through the Paris and London clubs has closed the financing gap."

The London club is a term used to describe a group of international creditor banks.

"There is no formal package of new money, it remains up to the individual banks to determine whether to keep providing short term finance and export credit," the analyst added.

The IMF has agreed to give

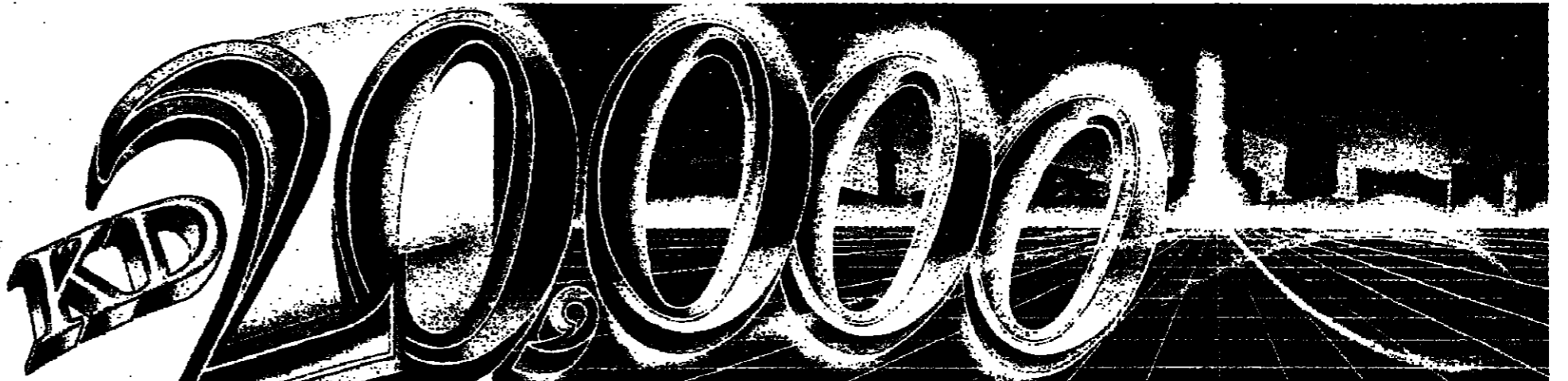
Jordan an 18-month standby credit of 60 million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) and 18.6 million which can be drawn at once for budget supports.

The World Bank is expected to lend Jordan \$150 million for projects to boost industry, exports and investment, although analysts said the money had not yet been formally lent.

At the same time the level of Arab aid, the decline of which helped create the crisis in Jordan, is expected to pick up.

Economists estimated total Arab aid fell to around \$200 million last year from \$500 to 600 million per year in the early 1980s. This year, they said, the end of the Gulf war and the Jordanian government's effort to seek support from its neighbours would bring in around \$400 million.

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Benson and Hedges Management Challenge

Ernst and Whinney wins again

By M.C. Bose
Business editor

A RARE repeat success story for the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge took place in Kuwait on Tuesday: the team from Ernst & Whinney of Raymond Cooper, Ivan da Silva and Deepak Khullar won the Kuwait final again this year. They won last year's Kuwait country final and performed well in the grand final in Penang, Malaysia. "To come back and win again was exhilarating especially against such a strong competition. The exercise was even more sophisticated and challenging than last year's, but once again it proved to be a great educational experience," said Cooper upon hearing the result. The team for Gulf Investment Corporation came second.

Ian Clarke, the Management Challenge organiser told the Arab Times on Tuesday during a final presentation meeting at Regency Palace.

He said Kuwait winners will join the Saudi French Bank from Jeddah, and the Saudi Irish Dairy Co. from Riyadh in this year's grand final, to be held later this year in the UK.

Kuwait is renowned in the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge's history having won the first grand final in 1984 with a team from the Commercial Bank of Kuwait. Today's win promises a substantial opportunity for Kuwait in the competition's final stage.

Clarke said the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge's organisers will go on to Bahrain, when the next country final will be held on September 16, 1989. In all, nine regional teams will represent their respective countries in the grand final for the 1989 title.

The country victors can now look forward to an exciting trip to the UK, the heart of the business world, in November where their proven talents will be put to a greater test: the "grand final." In this third stage of the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge, the local winners will come face to face with the regional champions from eight other locations in the Middle East.

The test this time round will be more elaborate: to guide a computer simulated company to success in a fiercely competitive atmosphere, where the slimmest of margins makes the difference between winning and losing. The model is interactive and is constructed with many variables, over a hypothetical period of several years. Contestants will have to make decisions on production, pricing, finance, promotional activity and market research as well as a staffing policy in order to gain the lead in a market where the competition is not only capable of taking similar actions but is also aware of the decisions made by the others.

The stately atmosphere of the world famous Ashridge Management College in the UK will host the two day grand final of the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge. The gruelling contest amongst nine teams will conclude with the announcement of the grand champions who will be the sixth team to achieve the distinction in as many years.

Clarke said the rewards, however, will more than compensate for the strenuous effort of the competition. The winning team will return home with the prestigious Benson & Hedges gold medals minted especially for the occasion in 22 carat gold by Spink & Co of London and with a portfolio of gold shares worth \$10,000 for each of their members. In addition, the company of the winning team will receive a Board Room Trophy and the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge award. The other grand finalists will receive gold medals also.

The Benson & Hedges Man-

agement Challenge, now in its sixth year, has grown out of all proportions this year and for the first time has reached beyond the GCC states to include Jordan.

The overwhelming response received by the competition organisers this year suggests that more business managers in the Middle East have not only become aware of the educational benefits of the competition, but are also keen to enter and test their own skills and talents against their peers. In the process, through their skill and judgement they may possibly also win some rich rewards.

The objective of the Benson & Hedges Management Challenge is to contribute to the developing business scene in the Middle East, stimulating management to consider factors which are key to business success.

This is the 6th year that Benson & Hedges have run this very successful competition and the team was led by Grant Bonar, Middle East Marketing Manager, who has been closely associated with the Challenge for a number of years.

Clarke took over the running of the competition in July 1989. Also present for the Benson & Hedges team was Gordon Chisholm the local BAT representative in Kuwait.

FPP is the advertising agency responsible for the media and public relations of the management challenge. Headed by Chris McIlwraith based in London and supported by Saleem Durraini, Media Manager based in Dubai, the FPP team has been responsible for the Management Challenge since 1984 when the management challenge first took place.

Participating companies — Kuwait:

Kuwait Drilling Company, P.O. Box 9066, Ahmedi 61001 — Ahmed M. Al Khatib, Mohammed Ishaque, Mohammed D. A. Rahim, Gulf Investment Corporation (second), P.O. Box 3402, Safat 13035 — Kazem Hayat, Gururaj Rao, Raju Jacob.

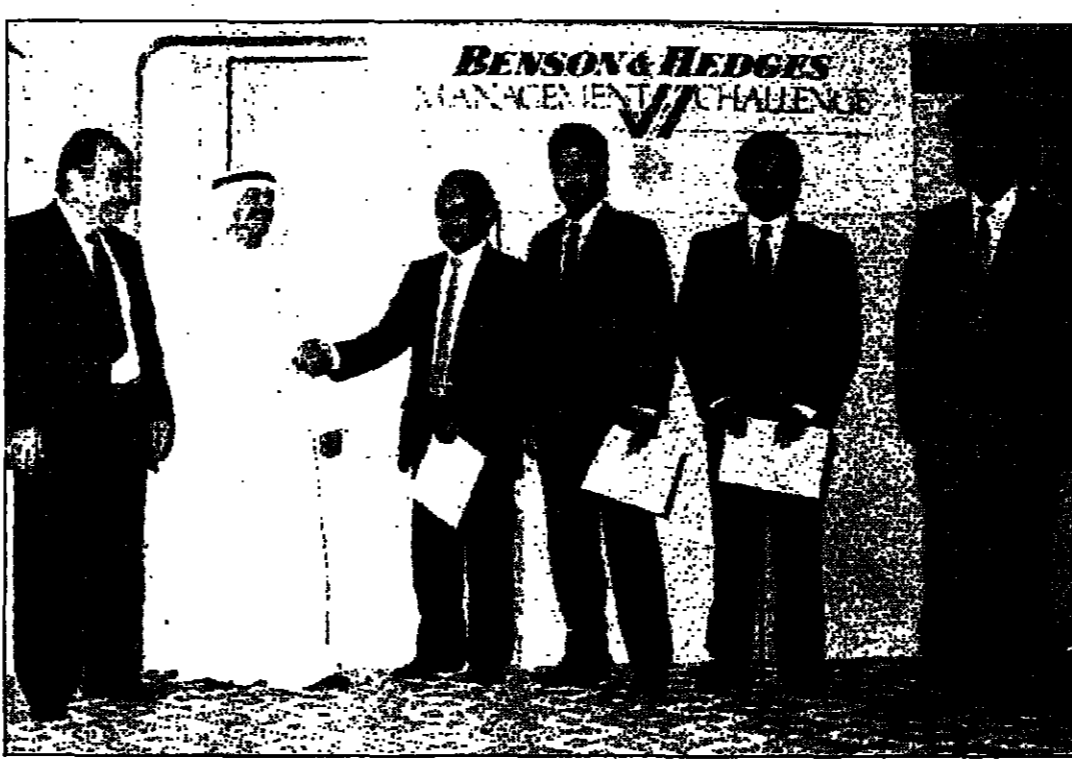
Ernst & Whinney (first), P.O. Box 74, Safat 13001 — Kayomerd Cooper, Ivan da Silva, Deepak Khullar.

Arthur Young Bader Al Razie & Co., P.O. Box 2115, Safat 13022 — Nizar Hasan Badwan, Raymond T.C. Serafica III, Apostolos T. Eliopoulos.

Bader Al Mulla & Bros WEL (third), P.O. Box 177, 13002 Safat — S.A. Saleem, Prakesh M. Abraham, Ramasamy Balu.

Kuwait National Petroleum Co. Shuaiba Refinery, P.O. Box 9202, Ahmedi — Himsanu Bhaumik, Shams A. Akhtar, Ashok Kamthan.

The prizes were presented by Abdul Latif Al Kharrazah, general manager of Co-op Union.



Prizes were presented by Abdul Latif Al Kharrazah (second from left), general manager of Co-op Union. Gordon Chisholm (extreme right) pictured with the winners.



Runners-up — GIC participants.



Ernst and Whinney team.

Tokyo share prices

Nikkei stock average: 34286.94
(-45.94)
Volume: 600 mil shs
Yen exchange rate: 146.70
Name of stock

Advantest Corporation	4650
Ajinomoto	2830
Alps Electric	1730
Amada	2020
Asahi Chemical Indus	1190
Asahi Glass	2320
C. Itoh Co.	988
Canon Inc.	1700
Casio Computer	1410
Dai Nippon Printing	2360
Daiichi Seiyaku	3080
Dainippon Pharmaceut	2800
Daishinku Corp.	1800
Eisai	2470
Fanuc Ltd.	6940
Fuji Photo Film Co.	4360
Fujitsu Ltd.	1530
Hitachi Credit	1880
Hitachi Koki	1870
Hitachi Ltd.	1560
Hitachi Metal	1540
Honda Motor	1990
Ito-Yokado Co., Ltd.	4550
Kajima Corporation	2070
Kawasaki Heavy Ind	1260
Kobe Cast Iron Works	915
Komatsu Ltd.	3000
Kyocera Corp.	1230
Martini	3260
Matsushita Comm. Ind	2970
Matsushita Electric	2330

Mazda Motor Corp.	1040
Mitsubishi Corporation	1570
Mitsubishi Estate	2370
Mitsubishi Heavy Ind	1140
Mitsui Real Estate	2520
Mizuno Corporation	1840
Mochida Pharmaceutical	3810
Mori Seiki Co., Ltd.	4350
NEC Corporation	1790
Nikon Corporation	1450
Nippon Shuppan Co. Ltd.	1790
Nippon Steel Corp.	786
Nippondenso Co., Ltd.	2470
Nitsumo Corporation	1440
Nomura Securities	3130
Okuma Machinery Work	1830
Onward Kashiwaya Co.	2200
Orix Corporation	6700
Pioneer Electronic Co.	4190
Renown Look Inc.	2410
Banyu Pharm.	1820 up 30
Calpis	1530 dn 20

Provided by Nomura Investment Banking (MGI), Bahrain

Indian rupee	18.100
Sri Lanka rupee	83.25
Pakistan rupee	7.680
Bangladesh taka	14.450
US dollar	9.270
Pound sterling	30200
Deutsche mark	46975
UAE dirham	15235
Japanese yen	08220
	002064

Bombay shares

BOMBAY Stock Exchange —
Closing prices (Rs) as on Sept.
13, 1989.

ACC	258.50
Asia Paint	197.50
Brooks Bond	85.25
Bajaj Auto	318.75
Baroda Rayon	725
Bombay Dyeing	125
Century Spinning	2155
Colgate	122.50
BSE Index	714.21
Deepak Fert.	31
E.I. Hotel	56.50
Esakayef	112.50
Essar	25
GNFC	35
GSFC	166.25
Grasim	105
G.E. Ship	39.85
Garware Polyester	69.50
Glindia	90
Hindococo	126.25
Hind Lever	99
Hindalco	269
Hindmotor	31
I.T.C.	68

Indian Organic	45.50
Indrayon	83.25
Indro	247.50
J.K. Synthetics	77
Larsen and Toubro	98.50
Mather PL	130
Mukand	130
Master Shri	15.50
Mahindra	90
MICO	635
Nocl	1130
Orkay	15.25
Premier Auto	58.25
Peico	27
Pfizer	67.50
Raymond	100
Reliance	50
Sie	72
Siemens	445
Std Mills	337.50
Tata Power	126
Tata Chemicals	1170
Tisco	1000
Telco	870
Volvo	378.45
Net index	378.45

(Compiled by Kavali India International Exchange Co.)

Italian bank crisis deepens dispute with Iraq

ROME, Sept. 13, (Reuters): The crisis at Italy's largest bank over huge unreported loans to Baghdad has worsened a long-standing row over the blocked delivery of Italian warships to Iraq, banking sources said today.

The dispute, which led Iraq to suspend payments in 1988 on a whole range of Italian contracts worth more than \$3 billion, appeared close to solution early this year but has now been complicated by the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL) affair, the sources said.

BNL last week announced its branch in Atlanta, Georgia, had lent Iraq \$1.72 billion in export credits without the knowledge or approval of the management, and that a further \$920 million of loans had been negotiated but not completed.

The news forced the resignation of BNL's president and director general.

The BNL board was meeting today to discuss the crisis and its implications for the bank's long-term plans to recapitalize.

Tomorrow Treasury Minister Guido Carli was due to testify for the first time to parliament on the affair.

Iraq has kept up the pressure on BNL. Finance Minister Hikmat Omar Mukheif said in today's London Financial Times that he expected BNL to pay the outstanding money negotiated "where we need it and when we need it."

The demand for payment of the outstanding loans, whose validity BNL disputes, is likely to complicate the wider negotiations between Italy and Iraq on ways to solve their trade dispute, the banking sources said.

Apart from the complication of the BNL crisis, press reports that some bank financing was arms-related may make the Italian government cautious about re-opening the dispute over the undelivered warships at such a sensitive time, political sources said.

Both the Iraqi embassy in Rome and BNL have strongly denied that any of the financing was arms-related.

China feels economic pinch

New investment likely to stagnate

BEIJING, Sept. 13, (Reuters): In early June, China's Army shot its way into Beijing to crush a campaign for democratic reforms. Now, it is the country's economy that is under fire.

Even before the Army stormed Beijing, China's economy was faltering. But foreign diplomats and businessmen say the impact from the bloody events on June 4 is beginning to show.

They also express concern that Beijing lacks the determination to turn its ailing economy around.

"Most of the impact will show up later," said a Western diplomat. "I don't believe China has the will to deal with it."

China has been struggling to cool its overheated economy and bring down the inflation rate from the 25.5 per cent it reached in the first half of this year. A year ago Beijing slapped controls on rampant official spending but to little avail.

Its problems have intensified since troops marched into Beijing in those early days of June, killing hundreds, perhaps thousands of people.

Although many foreigners who fled in June have returned, confidence has not.

New investment is expected to stagnate this year after a healthy start. The US Central Intelligence Agency estimates the value of new foreign investment contracts — once seen as likely to reach \$8 billion this year — may not top last year's \$5.2 billion.

The World Bank has halted new credits and commercial lenders have followed suit, saying that when lending resumes it will be more expensive in terms of interest and conditions.

China's leaders have begun to acknowledge the depth of their problems. In early September, Vice-Premier Yao Yilin told parliament the country's 1.1 billion people should expect more austerity because the government is short of cash.

"We face severe financial problems," Yao said. "We have no choice but to vigorously raise revenue and cut spending."

Despite an official campaign to check inflation Beijing has been forced to about double air, rail and boat fares to help the nation's creaking transport system pay its bills.

Jaguar profits plunge

LONDON, Sept. 13, (Reuters): British luxury carmaker Jaguar, focus of takeover speculation in recent months, said today its profits plunged in the first six months of this year, due mainly to weak US sales.

A weak dollar and rivals' discounts hurt margins on exports to the United States. Jaguar's main overseas market, it said.

Pre-tax profits tumbled to £1.4 million (\$2.2 million) in the first half of 1989 after 22.5 million (\$35 million) in the same period last year.

That was well below share analysts' forecasts, but brokers said Jaguar shares won support on the London Stock Exchange because of continued speculation about a possible bid and by midday the stock was unchanged at £3.97 (\$6.16).

First-half turnover at the Coventry-based group rose slightly to £553.6 million (\$860 million) from 537 million (\$834 million) in the first half of 1988.

"We always knew this year was going to be tough. We had some very difficult exchange rates to contend with the United States," Jaguar's chairman Sir John Egan told reporters.

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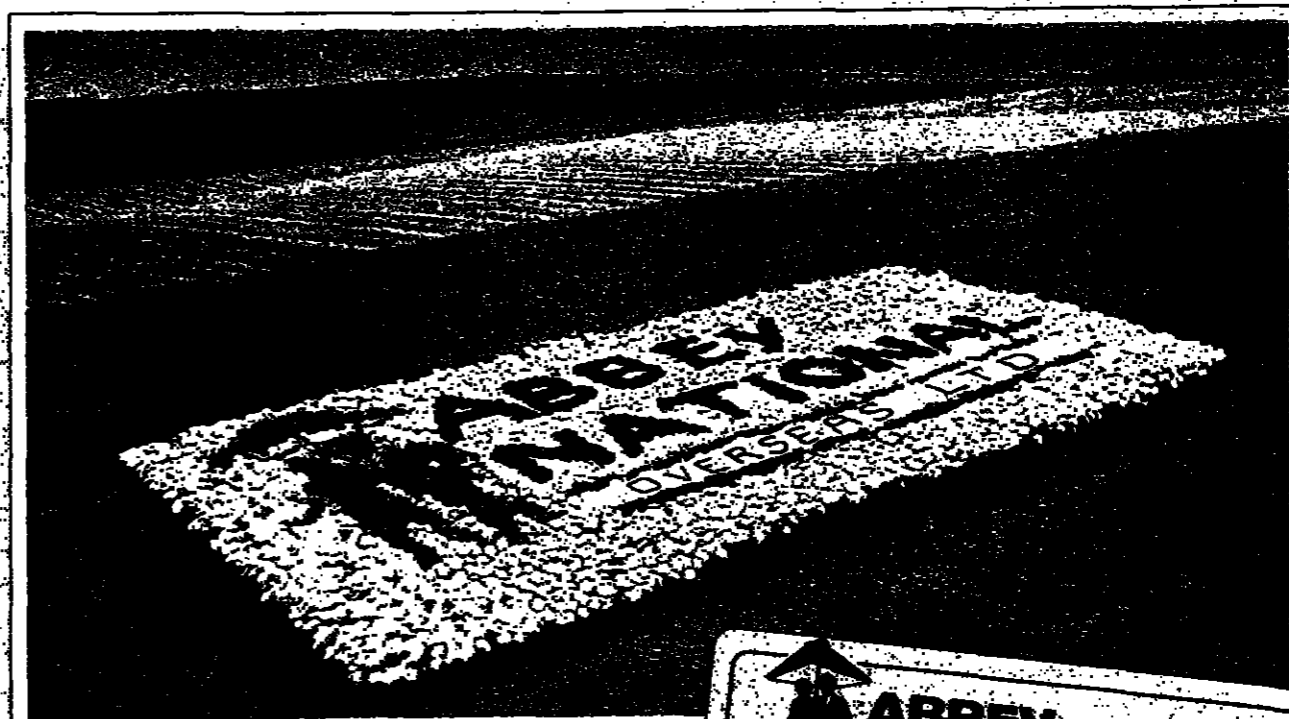
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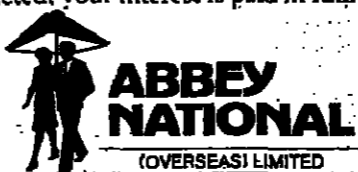
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EVENTS



The choir

The Vienna Boys are coming to town

ALL too often it happens that society fails to respect time honoured traditions, preferring to relegate them to the depths of some museum and eventual oblivion. Yet despite the difficulties incurred in preserving cherished traditions and maintaining their meaningfulness today, the Vienna Boys Choir are a splendid example of how it has proved possible to uphold a noble institution that nevertheless fulfills the demand of modern life to the full. Even though these "young singing ambassadors" of Austria are frequently to be seen speeding across continents from city to city by land, sea or air, the bright young voices of those left behind are to be heard every Sunday in the Imperial Chapel, taking part in the Mass as they have done for centuries. Indeed, one can consider the Imperial Chapel the cradle of Austrian musical tradition, for at the time of Emperor Maximilian II it saw the beginning of the choirboys' history.

The Emperor, well known as a humanist, issued a decree on July 7th 1498, expressing his desire to have choristers in the Imperial Chapel. Like the

musicians, the choristers came from the Netherlands, where the Emperor had first become acquainted with this new form of music and singing. At that time the Netherlands were the leading country where music was concerned — a superiority that they managed to maintain for a century before having to surrender to strong Italian opposition that also swept successfully through the Imperial Chapel. It was, however, the efforts of this very same chapel that succeeded in establishing Austria's supremacy ever since, for the chapel has been controlled by Austrians from the very beginning.

In 1918, however, it seemed as though an end would be put to this most glorious sector of Austrian musical culture. With the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy the court orchestra was dissolved together with the choirboys' home. Fortunately, however, Josef Schmitt retained the chaplaincy of the Imperial Chapel in the first years of the new republic, and in 1924, encouraged by his many friends, he decided to re-establish the boys choir. It was felt

that the well proven method of a boarding school was the only practicable method of ensuring that the choristers obtained the necessary musical training, and despite the enormous economic difficulties at the beginning the attempt was started. Schmitt spared his personal finances in no way whatsoever and today it is impossible to judge how much one owes to this generous man. It is alone his merit that this part of Austrian tradition could be preserved, and it would need a book to do justice to his efforts. It would also fill chapters of the same book, if one began to describe how concert appearances gradually began to form part of the choir's repertoire in addition to their duties in the Imperial Chapel. What initially had begun as an experiment became a great success. Concert tours were organised and the result was enthusiasm for the Vienna Boys Choir, as they were now called, wherever they appeared.

Gradually the boys' sailor suits became internationally known and welcome everywhere. Today the boys enjoy the privilege of living in the Aargarten Palace during termtime,

and spending their holidays on the shores of the beautiful Wörthersee. The bright rooms and the green park of the palace as well as the modern holiday home opened in 1965 on the shores of the lake ensure the best conditions for the development of the boys in both body and mind. Whoever has had the opportunity of seeing the boys either rehearsing or playing soon realises the secret of their fascinating performances; they have managed to combine the naivete of childhood with artistic maturity — something that can only be achieved through serious work and the upholding of tradition.

The legal basis of the institution today is in the form of a trust, the members of which have to be former choirboys. After Josef Schmitt's death in 1955 Dr. Walter Tautschig, a lawyer, became director of the institution and was elected president of the trust. He himself was a choirboy in the late 1920s and during his university days he was a tutor at the school. In 1983 Dr. Tautschig Jun. became director of the institution. He was a choirboy in the late 1950s.

Today you find choirboys in all professions, but many of them become professional musicians — e.g. choirmasters, members of famous orchestras and men's choirs. This of course helps to explain the strong bonds that hold all choirboys past and present.

One should not believe that the choristers are expelled as soon as their voices break. When the soprano or alto voice gradually deepens into a tenor or bass, the possessor of the same is rewarded for services rendered with a chance to "retire" to a special lodge in the palace. Despite its nickname "old age pensioner's home," the boys gladly stay there and attend a regular state school.

The Vienna Boys Choir is not simply a historic institution that ranks high in the world of serious music, it is also a valuable philanthropic method of schooling that influences and prepares numerous young men from all walks of life for the future.

Shows on 26th September and 4th October at 8:00 pm at the Kuwait International Hotel. For tickets contact the reception at 2533000 ext 8040. Special rates for school children.

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Photography & oil painting classes
Photography to be taught by Ann C. Eid, a professional photographer with a degree in fine arts, who has taught at the University of Maryland.

Oil painting to be taught by Yasmeen Bahima, a professional artist with a degree in fine arts, who has exhibited her paintings in many countries. Classes are to be held in Dairi. Limited to only 10 students per class. Register early.

Dates: Photography — Sundays, Oct 7 - Nov 25, 10 am to 1 pm on Wednesdays, Oct 4 - Nov 22, 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm.

Painting: Mondays, Oct 2 - Nov 20, 10 am to 1 pm. For further details and reservations, please call Yasmeen 2540587.

SOCIAL

Pakistan Arts Circle
A SERIES of programmes is being organised by the Pakistan Arts Circle, which includes mushairas, musical varieties, literary discussions, etc. Families are most welcome. Please register your names on Tel. Nos. 5323693, 5717585 or 4716258.

Kalpak Exhibition:
KALPAK (Kerala Arts & Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait) will hold an exhibition of Arts & Handicrafts at the Indian Embassy Hall on 15th September 1989 between 3 pm and 8 pm. For details contact 5632708/416737/5626620.

BADSING

The Bangladesh Diploma Engineers Society in Kuwait (Badesik) will hold the installation ceremony of its newly elected office bearers on Sept 15 at 6.30 pm at the Bangladesh Embassy premises. A cultural function will also be held on the occasion. Badesik members are requested to contact their local representative or phone 4330025 for further information.

Ahmadi Musical Society
REHEARSALS for the 1989/90 season will start on Saturday 16th September, at 7.30 pm at the Kuwait Little Theatre, Ahmadi. New singers welcome. For further details ring 3912384.

The Kuwait Players
AUDITIONS will be held at 8 pm on 16th September, 1989 in Al Fawz Room of the Mesilah Beach Hotel for 'Barefoot in the Park' a comedy by Neil Simon to be directed by Ken Winston. Anyone interested in participating in any way in this production is invited to attend. For further information ring 5740256/7 or 5625316.

Barbecue at MBH
WELCOME back to old and new. Over 15 clubs represented. So come along if you want to find out which organisation is for you. Tickets only. No children. September 20, 1989 — 7.30 pm onwards. For more details contact Mesilah Beach Hotel on 5624111 Ext 711 or 739.

Kuwait Singers
KUWAIT Singers commence rehearsals for their seasonal concert on Monday, September 18, at the Gulf English School, Salwa. New members particularly welcome. For further information contact Tel. 5384873 or 4884134.

Konkani drama
NOVEMBER 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintam Zallim Sopan" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chaplin of Goa Jacinto Vaz along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. For tickets contact Canary Video (Sharu) or Video Club (near GPO).

Syndicate Live
SEPT. 15 Two leading Goan organisations in Kuwait, The Weekend Club and Kuwait Goans, will join hands to host "Syndicate Live," a musical extravaganza at the Indian Arts Auditorium featuring Goa's music kings, The Syndicate, Stepping Stones, Top Ranks and a selection of talented local singers. Gate passes available

at Raja Stores and the Organisers. Call: Joe 2413348, Julio 5734513 for more information.

East Meets West
AUDITIONING of talented singers and dancers for the forthcoming East Meets West II Musical Extravaganza — those interested contact 2406878, 8.30 - 1.00; 4.30 - 7.00, (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) 12th, 13th and 14-09-89.

Breeze '89
OCT 26: Tim Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casimir or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

Flitchee chess
SEPT 26: The Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Flitchee) invites all Filipino Chess enthusiasts to join the first "Active Chess Tournament".

Attractive prizes await the lucky winners. Entry forms are available at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sept 15. For more details contact Edward Racaza (2421868, 2402405), Chito (2443961) or Jun (2409650).

Colva Nite
OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ballroom of Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact Tel. 2413884/2434776/562914/4310913 after 5 pm.

British Council
Defence of the Realm
Saturday, 16 September and Sunday, 17 September at 6.30 pm, 9.20 min.

What are they prepared to cover up in "Defence of the Realm"? When a respected journalist dies in mysterious circumstances after meeting a government "mole," his fellow reporter is determined to find out why. But each lead only raises more questions! A superb British thriller.

Free Tailoring Class
Kapitanang Filipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their free tailoring class to all bonafide Kapilku members beginning Friday, September 22 at Far East Restaurant from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon. This self-improvement course is one of the many projects by Kapilku. The class will run every Friday and end on October 3. All materials needed for the class

are given free to all participants. Master cutting, Barong Tagalog and executive suits will be covered in the course. For particulars, please contact Sarah Macarimbang Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447. Deadline for registration will be on September 15.

Spoken Arabic
The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training is starting to offer spoken Arabic classes for non-native speakers. The programme, starting in October 89, is for beginners and having intermediate knowledge in colloquial conversation. The registration will start on 16th September, 1989. Those who are interested please contact on telephone Nos. 2413050 Ext. 243, 269; 2455860 Ext 454, 455, 457; 2411383.

Palarong Pilipino Annual
All the winners in the just concluded Palarong Pilipino organised by the Kapitanang Pilipino sa Kuwait (Kapilku) should submit their pictures on or before September 22 to Homer L. Mesina, Vice-President of Media and External Affairs and the Chairman of the 9th Palarong Pilipino Souvenir Programme.

For group, the picture must be coloured and the size is 5"x7" with their officials and players and for the individual, it must be coloured and the size is also 5"x7".

Sponsors and donors who may wish to place ads must contact Sarah Macarimbang, Vice-President for Social and Cultural Affairs at 4843447.

Kapilku Night
The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold their Kapilku Night on Friday, September 29 in Holiday Inn Hotel at 5.00 pm. This singing contest is open to all Filipinos and the competition is divided into two categories, namely, Bagong Kampeon (regular singing contest) and Sing-Alike. The first three winners in each division will receive valuable prizes from the sponsors. Interested participants are requested to contact VP Sarah Macarimbang the chairperson at 4843447 and Rod Cerezo at 2433595, the co-ordinator.

All previous winners are requested to contact the chairperson for the rehearsal on the forthcoming Grand Final on October 20.

Rehearsals and auditions for all Kapilku Night contestants will be on Friday, September 15 at Far East Restaurant at 10.00 am.

D'Assisi Association

OCTOBER 6: Ninth annual Thanksgiving mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral at 8 am followed by a get-together after mass. All D'Assisi ex-students along with their families and friends are invited. For more details contact: 2443379 or 2469811.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dir' with Perfect Strangers music. Children's programme at 5 pm from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Other programmes start with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

SPORTS

Ball

STEPS School of Dance, is affiliated with the Royal Academy of Dance, London. Girls of all ages can learn classical ballet or modern dance. There is an adult jazz course for ladies, and a gymnastics course for children. For registration and more details, please contact the Kuwait English School from 3 to 7 pm on weekdays, or Thursday mornings.

Football Leagues

Anybody interested in joining a soccer league, preferably already belonging to a team, please call Bob or Alan on 5386444.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 9.30 Cartoons
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
- 10.15 Mawlood Fi Al Waqt Al Dhay: Arabic serial (Part 6)
- 11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 11.05 Achlah Wamlah: Local serial (Part 1), starring Abdul-Husain Abdul Ridha, Mohamed Al Mansoor and Mohammed Jaber
- 12.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
- 12.15 Al Hesin: recreational programme
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World Today via Satellite
- 1.30 Hesham Fi Mamlakat Al Nash: cartoon serial
- 2.00 Variety
- 2.15 Awdat Owaisid: Arabic serial (Final part)
- 3.15 Religious feature
- 3.35 Al Teneen Al Sagheer: cartoon serial
- 4.00 Cartoons
- 4.30 Al Essaba: local children play, starring Maryam Al Ghabban, Huda Hussain
- 6.00 Variety
- 6.30 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements
- 7.00 Cultural film
- 7.30 Egypt message to the State of Kuwait
- 8.00 Variety
- 8.30 Maa Al Islam: religious programme
- 9.00 Arabic News
- 9.45 Wajeda Wa Sameh: Arabic serial (Part 8)
- 10.30 Al Yawm Al Mashhood: Arabic feature film, starring Salah Qabael, Afaf Shuaib, Mahmoud Masoud
- 12.30 Thursday late night variety show
- 1.15 News Summary
- 1.20 The World Today via Satellite
- 1.50 Holy Quran and Closedown

FRIDAY

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.25 The Secret of the Thund Planet: cartoon film
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
- 10.15 Variety
- 10.30 Al Ahadeeth Al Mawdooh: religious programme, presented by Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael
- 11.00 Live from the Grand Mosque for the Friday Prayers and Speech
- 12.30 Alwan: variety programme, prepared by Mohamed Al Fares and presented by Fatma Abdul Wahab
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World Today via Satellite
- 1.30 The Friday Break: variety programme
- 3.30 Cartoons
- 4.00 Ameer Al Doha: Arabic feature film, starring Fared Shawqi, Mahmoud Al Milaji, Shwaikar and Mahmoud Mursi
- 6.00 Variety
- 6.30 Night Chemists, Airlines and Official Advertisements
- 7.00 Kuwait in a Week: news programme
- 7.30 KTV programmes in a week
- 8.15 Popular Variety
- 8.40 Hadeeth Al Osboo: religious programme, presented by Sheikh

- Ali Al Jassar
- 9.00 Arabic News
- 9.45 Wrestling
- 10.30 Kalema: variety programme with guest star Mahmoud Yaseen
- 11.45 News Summary
- 11.50 The World Today via Satellite
- 12.15 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: A cartoon series for children
- 6.30 Take Hart: An educational programme for children
- 7.00 Intruders: "Dear Oh Dear" Part 2
- 7.30 T And T: "The Whole Truth." Mr Turner is missioned by a cop from St Louis to arrest a young boys gang boss accused of stealing a car...
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Beauty and The Beast: TV Bloopers & Practical Jokes: A variety of unexpected events and practical jokes occur while actors or actresses are performing their roles and duties...
- 10.30 Feature film: "Stranger On My Land." A farm owner resists by arms the Ministry of Defence that plans to acquire his farm by force.
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

FRIDAY

- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Silver Hawks: A cartoon series for children
- 6.30 Inter Bang: Both adversary parties meet in a restaurant in New York city where the killer reaches earlier and gets the seventh version of the tower...
- 7.00 Walt Disney: Third Man On The Mountain Part! The story of a young man who is fond of climbing mountains where he attempts to reach a very high summit...
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Summer '89: Recreational and entertainment activities carried out by the Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC) in various parts in Kuwait...
- 8.45 Around The World: A variety of world news, events and activities.
- 9.15 Miami Vice: "Hard Knocks."
- 10.00 Valerie: "Hogan vs Hogan"
- 10.30 Moonlighting: "Eine Kleine Nacht Murder" Maddie succeeds in running away from a cop who killed his colleague.
- 11.30 News in brief
- 11.45 Magazine D'Actualite

PRAYERS

- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| Fajr | 4.12 am |
| Zuhr | 11.44 |
| Asr | 3.14 pm |
| Maghreb | 5.55 |
| Isha | 7.13 |
| FRIDAY | |
| Fajr | 4.13 am |
| Friday prayers | 11.43 |
| Asr | 3.13 pm |
| Maghreb | 5.53 |
| Isha | 7.12 |

NIGHT CHEMIST

Gharnata Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street, Al Rashid Building
Al Therban Pharmacy
Arabian Gulf Street, Bibi Complex
Nugra and Hawalli
Al Firdous Pharmacy
Nugra, Beirut Street, Opp. to Hawalli governorate
Salmiya and Rasmattiya
Derna Pharmacy
Extension of Amman Street, Shua Al Sabah Building
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Ahmadi Pharmacy
Ahmadi, Ahmadi Supermarket
Jleeb Shuyookh
Palestine Pharmacy
Main Street, Property of Moneera Obaid Al Rajhi
Jahra
Al Najah Pharmacy
The Fourth Area, Plot No. 48, Bader Al Somait Company

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Al Hafez Pharmacy
Salah Al Deen Street, Wajir Souq, Al Bahar Building
Al Salam Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kaber Street, near the Universal Hotel
Nugra and Hawalli
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Nugra, Al Othman Street, Al Kord Square, Al Dosaj Building
Salmiya and Rasmattiya
Al Bader Pharmacy
Salmiya, Al Bilaj Street, Al Hoda Complex
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Ithad Pharmacy
Fahadheel, Makka Street, Property of Qais Al Ghanem
Farwaniya
Al Jazera Pharmacy
Main Street, Hmoud Hayef Al Rasheed Building
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Jahra, Al Matafi Street, Abdul Aziz Al Nasrallah Building

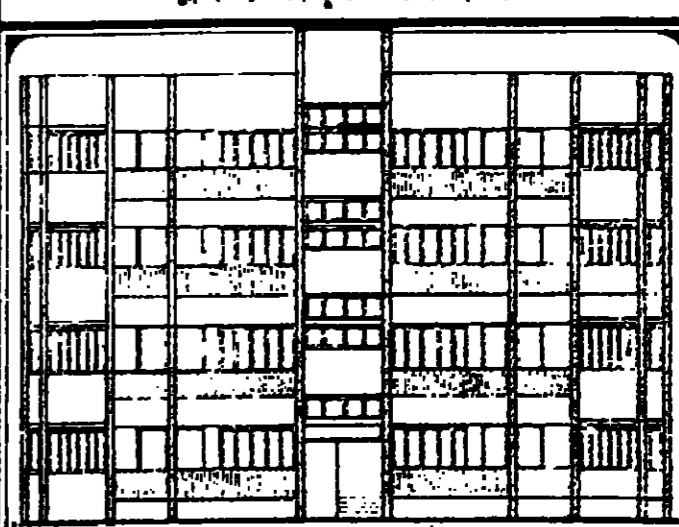
CINEMA

Al Andalus
One Man Force
Al Salmiya
Hall Booked
Al Hamra
Wild Force
Drive-In
Dil Aur Deewar
Al Firdous
Ganga Tere Desh Mein
Fahadheel-Open
Batwara
Fahadheel
Banjaran
Al Jahra
Arabic film
Granada
Cocktail
Sulabikhat
Moonam Pakkam
Jaleeb
Nafat Ki Aandhi
Ahmadi Drive-In
Arabic film

FRIDAY

Al Andalus
One Man Force
Al Salmiya
Hall Booked
Al Hamra
Wild Force
Drive-In
Dil Aur Deewar
Al Firdous
Ganga Tere Desh Mein
Fahadheel-Open
Batwara
Fahadheel
Banjaran
Al Jahra
Commando Wildgeese
Granada
Khatrun ke Khiladi
Sulabikhat
Topline
Jaleeb
Kaal Chakra
Ahmadi Drive-In
Arabic film

ফ্রাট/বাজী বিক্রয়



নিম্নপূর ২নং সেকশনে ক্যাম্পাস ১০ কাটা গড় গ্রেটের উপর সত্য নিশ্চিত প্রতিটি ফ্রাট ১৪৫০ বঃস্বঃ, সম্পূর্ণ মোজাইক, টাইলসের বাথরুম, ৩৬১২ ফুটের ডাইনিং, শি, কিচেন, ট্রের, ওটা বারান্দাসহ দক্ষিণমুখী প্রতি ফ্রাটে ২টা করে ৮টি আধুনিক ফ্রাট/৪র্থ তলা বাজী এখনই হস্তান্তরযোগ্য। (Sale Permission নেয়া আছে) জমির মালিকানাসহ ফ্রাটগুলো বিক্রয় হবে: সম্মুখে ৩০ ফুটের রাস্তা।
সাবিদ ২-ডি-২/৬ নিম্নপূর হাজিঞ্জ এন্ডেট, ঢাকা-১২১৬.
কুড়োথ থোপামোলের ফোন নম্বর: ৪৩১৬০০২

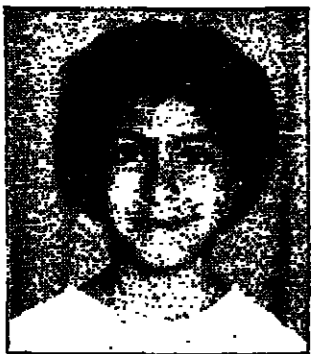
تنبی

Tenby

تنبی

MADE IN ENGLAND

Happy birthday



Nora Fernandes celebrates her 9th birthday on September 16. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Nora goes to the Carmel School and likes swimming and painting.



Zahidur Rehman celebrated his 13th birthday on September 12. Belated greetings from family, Rajnikant and Kamala Hasan. Zahidur goes to the Sunshine School and likes modelling and hairstyling.



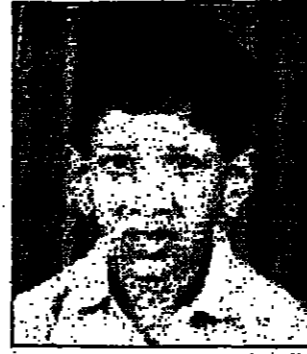
Legy Joseph Pathil celebrates his 5th birthday on September 16. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Legy goes to the Indian School Abbassiya and likes dancing and watching TV.



Nitish Anchal Dasa celebrated his 11th birthday on September 12. Belated greetings from parents, brother and relatives. Nitish goes to the New Indian School.



Arwa Moiz Padrawala celebrates her 5th birthday today, September 14. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Arwa goes to the New Indian School and likes to draw.



Abizar Akbarali Ragib celebrates his 8th birthday today, September 14. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Abizar goes to the New Indian School and likes jokes and playing.



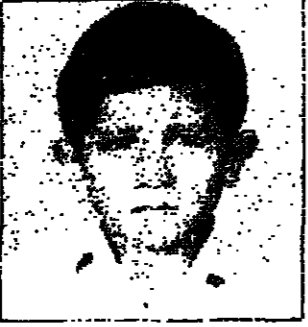
Faye D'Almeida celebrates her 5th birthday on September 18. Happy birthday from mum, dad, little brother, Uncle Vince and Aunt Lydia. Faye goes to the Carmel School and likes dancing and collecting cuddly toys.



Atif Ali Atzal celebrates his 5th birthday today, September 14. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Atif goes to the Saint Mary's School and likes to play cricket.



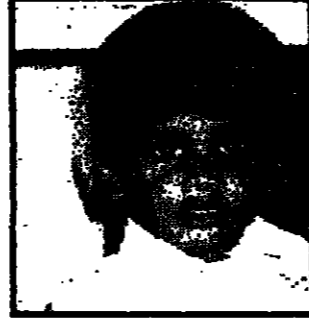
Heebha Mazhar celebrates her 1st birthday on September 17. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends.



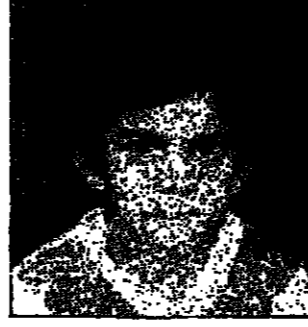
Mehul Doshi celebrates his 7th birthday on September 15. Happy birthday from parents, Vatsal, relatives and friends. Mehul goes to the Indian School and likes reading, carom and cartoons.



Haleema Azhar celebrates her 9th birthday today, September 14. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Haleema goes to the New International School of Pakistan.



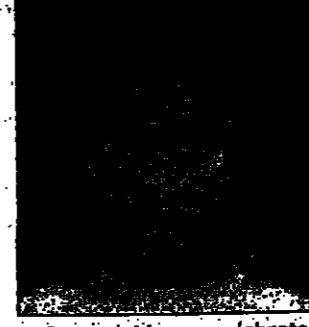
Lester celebrated his birthday on September 13. Belated greetings from mum, dad, Leon, Henry, Frenny, Joleta, Peter and Zia.



Franzil Miranda celebrates his 7th birthday on September 15. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Franzil goes to the Indian School and likes music and speaking publicly.



Md Abdulla Zindram celebrates his 4th birthday on September 15. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Md likes to play with toys.



J Samuel Moses celebrates his 5th birthday on September 16. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. J goes to the Indian School Fahaheel and likes cycling and watching the video.



Nabeel A Latif celebrates his 11th birthday on September 17. Happy birthday from parents, relatives and friends. Nabeel goes to the Pakistani School and likes reading books.

Going to school



Sayyeda Mariam will be going to the United Indian School this year. She is a four-year-old Indian and wishes to become a doctor when she grows up.



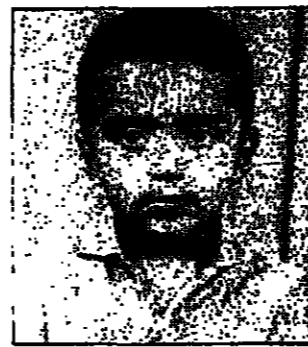
Atif Atzal starts school this year. Atif is a five-year-old Pakistani. He will be going to Saint Mary's Shadbagh and wants to become a doctor or engineer when he grows up.



Rami Roshdy, an Egyptian, will start his education at the Gulf English School this year. Rami is 3 1/2 years and wants to be a doctor when he grows up.



Shagufa Dhansay will be going to the Indian School this year. She is a 4-year-old Indian and wants to be a doctor when she grows up.



Nabil Chowdhary will be going to the Carmel School this year. He is a 4 1/2-year-old Pakistani and wants to be a gentleman when he grows up.



Md Rizwan Bhatti, a 5-year-old Indian will be going to the New Indian School this year. He wants to become a headmaster when he grows up.

Amazing facts

Prince Charles became eligible to sit in the House of Lords at the age of three, when he was made Duke of Cornwall.

George V collected 325 albums full of stamps during his lifetime.

William Penn the Quaker who founded Pennsylvania, suggested the formation of a United Nations 283 years ago.

A five-year-old Texan boy playing his first round of golf, made a 103-yard hole-in-one.

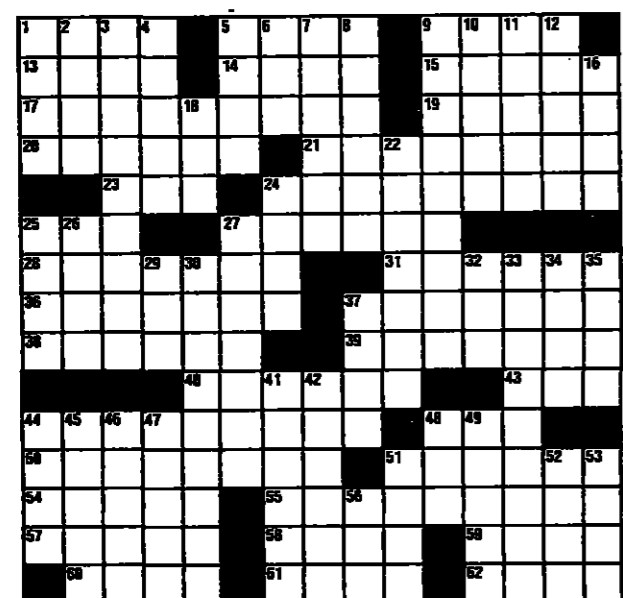
The only food eaten by a German nun in thirty-five years was the holy wafer taken at morning mass.

Skateboard champions reach speed of over 56 mph.

Babies can breathe and swallow at the same time — adults cannot.

The barn owl has a night vision 2-5 times greater than a human being's.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Research areas, for short
 - Sly
 - of Gilead
 - Nobelist Wiesel
 - Potpourri
 - Bye-bye
 - Barcelona
 - Sheetrock
 - Maria or Clara
 - Street and Reese
 - Rely
 - Dutiful org. of young men
 - Railroad cry
 - init. of a 1970's rock gp.
 - Magician's word
 - Felsty and fierce fellow
 - Prestige
 - USAF
 - Installation
 - crowd
 - Bottoms
 - Bureaucracy
 - Symbols of sameness
 - Difficult Prefix
 - The right side of a ship
 - Minor misstatement
 - Had taken a —
 - Complete a cryptogram
 - far, far better thing...
 - Data display at the track
 - Gunter Gabel-Williams, e.g.
 - Ready for business
 - TV's talking horse
 - Lease
 - Bone: Comb.
- DOWN**
- Nervous
 - Salacious
 - Wings
 - Road sign
 - Retails
 - Bills' companions?
 - Words on a bistro carte
 - Tummy tucker?
 - Sounds from the Swiss
 - Floor molding
 - Hershey bell
 - Actress Gray
 - Engine
 - Hourglass contents
 - Meadow sound
 - Fixes a tear
 - Commedia dell' —
 - Abba of Israel
 - Cary Fisher role
 - Intense feeling
 - Stat for Mattingly
 - Shirt insert
 - Whale:
 - Comb form
 - Bedroom item
 - Notice
 - Toes, in Scotland
 - Walked on 41 T. Williams' "The Rose"
 - Armed forces of 44 Peevish state
 - Complete
 - One at —
 - Up
 - Calendar abbr.
 - to bury Caesar...
 - Sandy hill, in Devon
 - Bottom of the barrel
 - Whirlpool
 - Asian holiday
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
- OATH DADO ADAM
TRIO IMISS LOBE
OUTOFSIGHT SWIT
SMOKED SEALANES
ESAU ANITA
SPURTING DOINAS
ARP ANILE NADIA
MASH STEAM NOST
ASIAN ENTAD ULE
REDTOP SERIATED
ETUIS NIAS
SIDESTEP ENIGMA
IVOR COUNTEDOUT
NAWA HUIOT ERSE
ENINS LEDIA SEEN

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
GRASP THE BRASS RING

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A K J 10 6
 ♥ K 10 9
 ♦ 8
 ♣ J 9 7 3

WEST
 ♠ 7 5 4 2
 ♥ 6 4 3
 ♦ K J 7 6 3
 ♣ 2

EAST
 ♠ 8 3
 ♥ A Q J 5
 ♦ A Q 10 9 4
 ♣ 6 4

SOUTH
 ♠ Q 9
 ♥ 8 7 2
 ♦ 5 2
 ♣ A K Q 10 8 5

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ 2 ♣ 3 ♠ 4 ♦
 5 ♣ Pass Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Six of ♦

If there is anything we fear more than a person who proudly claims to "play by the seat of the pants," it is one who claims to go "by the book." The first is likely to be a player with more imagination than is healthy; the latter, one with no imagination at all.

The auction is reported as it occurred, and it does not find favor with this department. We would not consider anything other than a take-

out double with the East hand. West's four-diamond preempt was a rather half-hearted attempt to crowd the auction. It was unlikely to succeed because the opponents had already exchanged a considerable amount of information. Had we been in the West seat, we would have gone the limit by raising to five diamonds. East passed because he had hopes of defeating the contract.

West led his fourth-best diamond. East won and, with the threat of the spade suit staring her in the face, cashed the ace of hearts before trying to take a second diamond. Making five-odd—a "book" result, since West had made the textbook opening lead of fourth-best in her partner's suit. However, a rather more imaginative defender would have defeated the contract. With five-card support for partner's suit, West should have realized that two rounds of diamonds were not going to live—indeed, even the first diamond might not survive. It might be vital for West to direct the defense, but she had no entry.

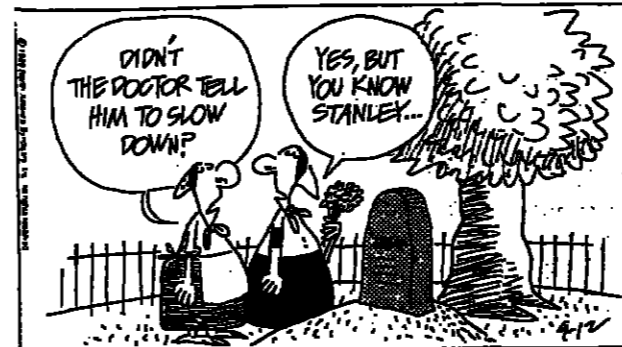
The solution would have been to lead the king of diamonds at the opening gun. Then the heart shift at trick two would have been obvious, and bye-bye contract.



"Yes, yes, I know you were excited. But read it yourself. It says, 'Head man wanted for branch office.'"

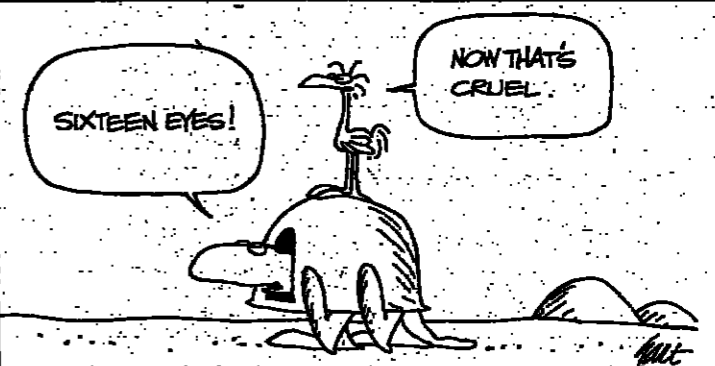
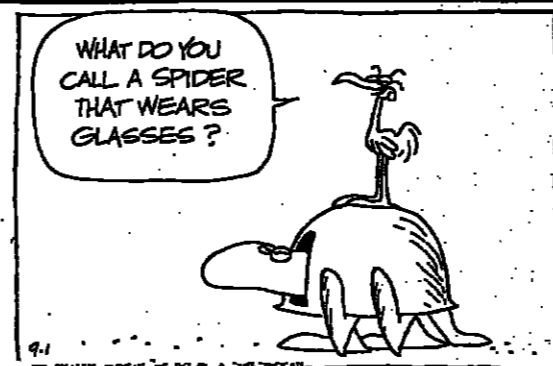
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Have the courage of your convictions. Do not expect results without having worked for them. Do not say things on the spur of the moment. Be proud of yourself.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Try to save money but not by being mean or cutting down on essential repairs and maintenance. Your lucky numbers are 18 and 29. Do not let some small setback dissuade you altogether.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Eat no more than you need to maintain your weight. Take a little better care of your health, but avoid "fads." You should not try to evade the responsibilities for your actions. Be reasonable.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Do not neglect a small infection. It is not to your credit if you do not give acknowledgements where they are due. You should try not to make matters more complicated for yourself. Be reliable.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You should not ignore an offer or proposal but take it seriously. And always read the small print before entering into an agreement. Try not to allow your emotions to get out of hand. Be tolerant.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to set your partner's mind at rest and should do so. You should make sure you get enough exercise, but do not exhaust yourself. Do not allow yourself to be put off your stride. Be tactful.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will find it more difficult to concentrate on what you are doing. Do not allow others to steal the credit for what you have done. Do not be slow to answer a letter. Be moderate.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will receive a letter for which you have been waiting, but it will not contain the note you had hoped for. You will be able to overcome a rather formidable obstacle. You should not lose sight of your objectives. Be helpful.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Others are more likely to disagree with you and should be careful not to get into an argument. You should try to look on the positive side. Avoid living too much in the past. Be sincere.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Do not fear what might, but probably will not happen. You should try a little harder to adapt yourself to inalterable circumstances. Do not give up too soon but nor exhibit obstinacy. Be respectful.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

Nothing will proceed quite as quickly as you had hoped. However, you must do all you can to avoid getting into arrears. Have a little more faith in yourself. Be prompt.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Something you had been rather dreading is now over and it was not as bad as you had feared was it? You will be able to hit the right note with one of your acquaintances. Do not permit yourself to be distracted. Be thankful.

First of 3-part series

Back to school

By Julie Hodgson

ALL the children, walked to the school gates. Some had been before, for some it was their first time. The new ones, turned and waved at their parents, before they went into the playground.

One particular little girl, had travelled by bus to get to school. As Sarah got off the bus, she looked around and thought, "what a lot of boys and girls."

Her brother Tristan, had started a different school, so she was on her own. Just then a little girl came up to Sarah.

"Hello, my name is Bidor", she said shyly, "what's yours?"

"My name is Sarah", she replied.

Well the two girls got on very well, telling each other about their favourite toy, and what books they liked



to read.

The nice thing was they both lived in Salmiya, so they could arrange to see each other after school.

When the bell went to go into class, the two new friends, held hands, smiled at each other, and went into their classrooms together. Sarah thought, "school won't be so bad after all."

Next week the children realise how much fun school is! Don't miss it...

What am I?

"I am a two-feature creature. Which two animals am I made from?"

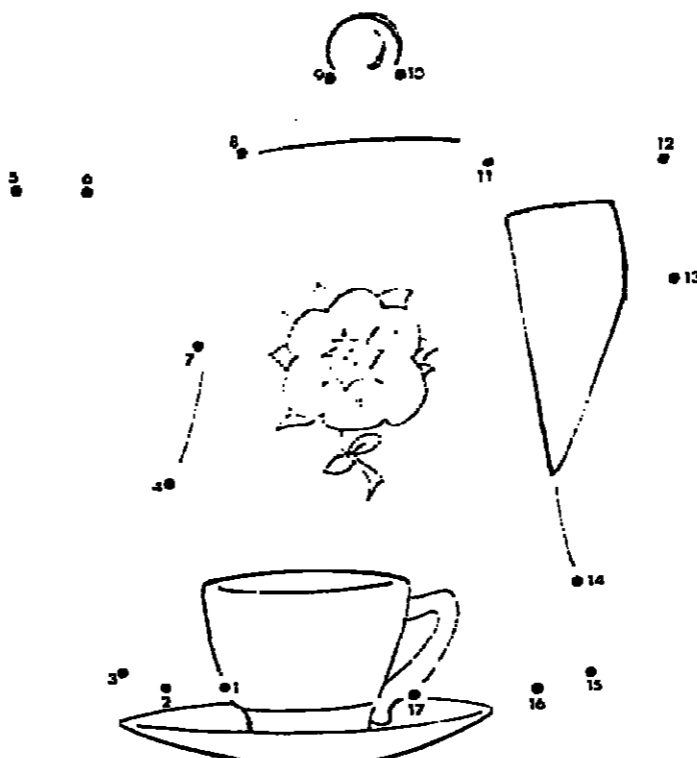


- ☐ Dog
☐ Frog
☐ Camel
☐ Elephant
☐ Bear
☐ Bird

- ☐ Sheep
☐ Chicken
☐ Fish
☐ Turtle
☐ Butterfly
☐ Monkey

Dot-to-dot

Join the dots to find out what this is. There are so many songs written about the objects below. Try listing them and then colour in the completed picture.



Young artist

A little girl and her teddy bear.



Sarah.
9 years old.
International
School.

Word search

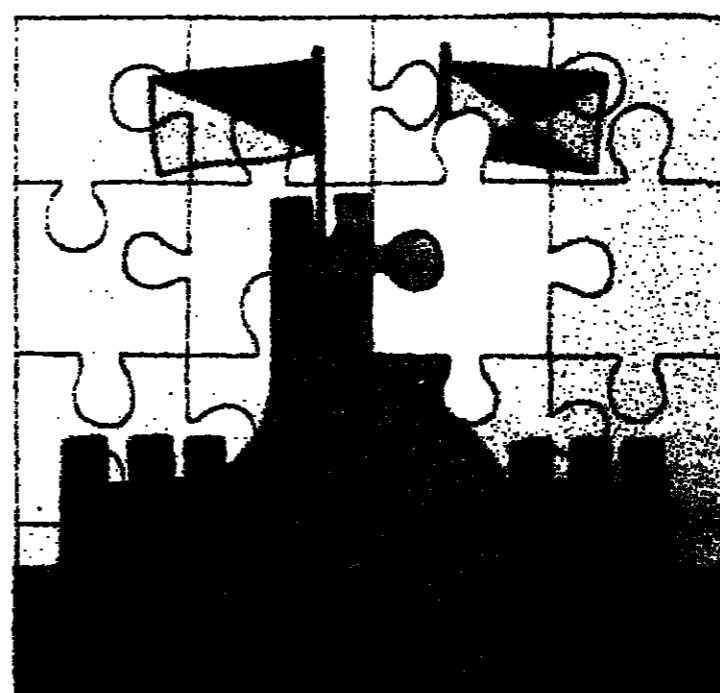
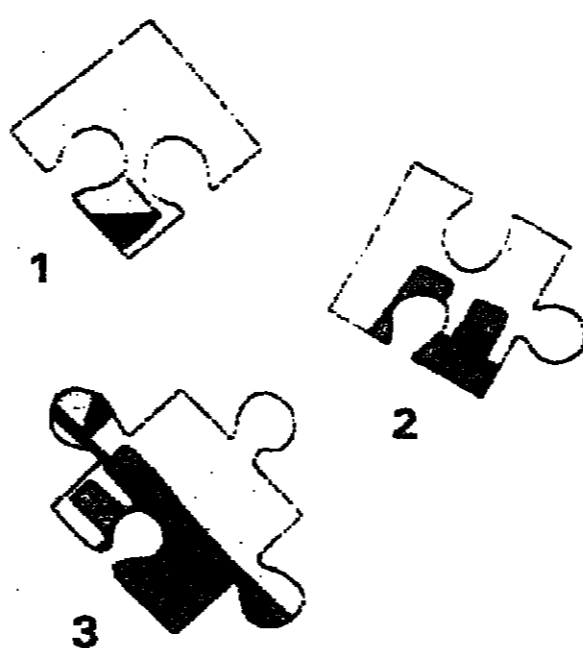
THE TRUE TEST

CHECK
COUNTDOWN
DELVE into
DRY RUN
EXAMINE
EXPERIMENT
INQUIRE
INSPECT
Giving the ONCE OVER
PROBE

QUERY
QUESTION
SCAN
SEARCH
SIZE UP
SOUND out
SURVEY
TEST
TRY OUT

E F V H I H C R A E S F K
L R B H F N C F Q U Y E D
Q U I H Y H S F H R X X N
P J V D E E Z P E P N C T
N H E C Q U V U E W F U I
O H K X P N Q R O C O Z S
I X P R A D I D U Y T F C
T F O U N M T G R S X G A
S B H U E N I T D Y H C N
E F O N U Z E N H E R F C
U S T O H S I B E D L U H
Q Z C X T H B S Q U H V N
R E V O E C N O H F C D E

Which piece fits the puzzle?



Just for laughs!

Then there was this really stupid American. He got the world record for standing close to a fire longer than anyone else. Now he's the toast of New York.

There was a really mad woman down our street. She used to keep her husband under the bed. She thought he was a little potty.

There was this one-legged man on Mastermind. Whenever he couldn't answer a question he wouldn't say 'Pass.' He'd just say, 'I'm stumped.'

This bloke was arrested for stealing things from chemists shops. He said it was the doctor's fault — it was him that told him to keep taking the tablets.

This man and his wife were going on holiday. And they had lots and lots of luggage. Tons of it. When they got to the airport, the man turned to his wife and said, 'Ethel, I wish we'd brought the piano as well.'

She said, 'Why's that?' He said, 'I left tickets on the lid.'

A really stupid man won a fortune on the pools. He said to his wife, 'Nothing's going to change. We'll go on exactly as we used to.'

She said, 'But Harry, what about the begging letters?' He said, 'Keep sending them out.'

There was this trades union leader who said to his mate, 'I love the Spring. Would you believe it, the primroses are out?'

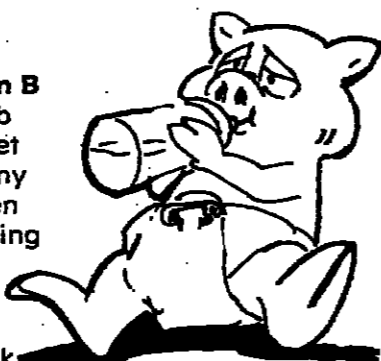
His mate said, 'Yes, and if that goes on we'll have to come out in sympathy.'

The Baby Boom

Directions: In the Spring of the year most young creatures are born. They greet their new life with energy and excitement. They grow during the warm days of summer in preparation of the hard days of summer. Match the animal name in column A with the name of the young of that species in column B. Draw a line to connect the pairs. Place the letter of the pair beneath the number of the pair in the message.

- Column A
1. swan
2. tiger
3. chicken
4. goose
5. dog
6. cat
7. duckling
8. horse
9. rabbit
10. pig
11. sheep
12. cow

- Column B
a. lamb
b. piglet
c. bunny
d. kitten
e. gosling
f. foal
g. pup
h. cub
i. chick
j. cygnet
k. duckling
l. calf



MESSAGE:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
S

4 1
S

10 11 12
10 12

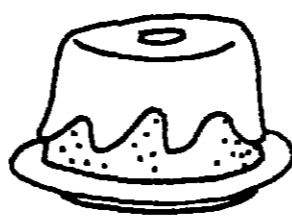
7 4 8 9

What belongs?

Colour in the pictures. Boldly circle the picture which does not belong



penny



cake

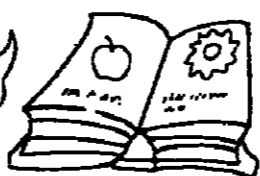
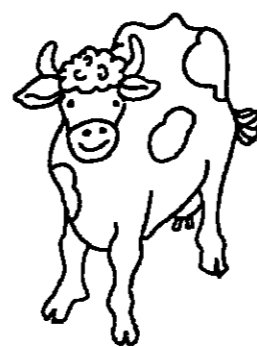
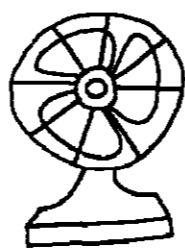
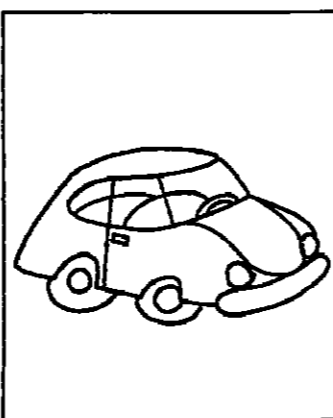


dime



quarter

Look at the picture in each box. Say its name. Colour the pictures in each row that begin with the same sound.



Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name: _____
Date of birth: _____
School: _____
Hobbies: _____
Telephone: _____
(confidential)

Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

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13023, Safat,
Kuwait
To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

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2400014, 2400015
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4745900

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NAME CHANGE

I, HASSAN Mohammed Ali
Murad, holder of Indian passport
No. B070941 Indian, hereby
change my name to Hussain
Muhammad Ali Murad.
(AT6-49201-1)
(AT6-49201-1)

ACCOMMODATION

Available

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Muthanna Complex. Accom-
modation for a bachelor to share
with another bachelor from 1st
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(AT5-49288-3)

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galoan couple or bachelors to
share with Mangaloan
bachelors. Tel. 4316890
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(AT6-49283-3)

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Safat Post Office. From 1st Oct.
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Indian Christian couple preferred.
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tian bachelor to share with a north
Indian family. Tel. 2486294
(AT5-49317-2)

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dation available for one or two work-
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working girl. Tel. 2466410/11,
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with tennis court, swimming pool,
private elevator fully equipped
kitchen. Rent KD520. Carpets
KD200. Also barbecue, tricycle
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RUMATHIYA, mulhaq, one
room, one bath, one kitchen. Rent
KD70. One floor with 2 rooms,
kitchen and bath. Rent KD100.
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(AT4-49246-3)

JABRIYA, new deluxe villa, 2
storey, basement, servants quar-
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diplomat. Tel. Assad, 3710263,
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URGENTLY REQUIRED Filipino painting supervisor

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engine with several extras includ-
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ware, hardly used. Tel. 2403829,
5636945.
(AT4-49257-3)

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full options, dark grey, compre-
hensive insurance upto July 1990,
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5747192 - answering machine and
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GALANT GLS '85, automatic, in
very good condition, KD230 for
owner, KD1180 by instalments,
monthly KD49 or cash. Tel.
Naem or Shahr 4714858 7.30
am-8 pm.
(AT4-49251-3)

MITSUBISHI Cordia Turbo man-
ual with AC, full options, regis-
tered first in July '85. One owner,
in excellent condition. Tel.
Fahim, 4718186 8am-8pm
(AT6-49335-3)

TOYOTA Crown Super Saloon,
'83 model, AC, tape-recorder,
fully automatic, white, 4 doors,
in very good condition, KD1200.
Tel. Nazir Ahmed, 4348508, 1-
3.30 pm 8.30-11 pm.
(AT4-49267-3)

MERCEDES 200, 1980, manual,
extra options, normal benzene,
insurance upto September 1990,
one owner, in excellent condition,
for immediate sale, KD2000 cash.
Tel. 4837123 any time.
(AT4-49252-3)

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golden. KD675 ono. cash. Tel.
5321294, 3-6 pm.
(AT4-49368-3)

SUZUKI Gemini, 1983 model, air
condition, automatic, in very
good condition. KD400 Tel.
Hena, 3717246
(AT6-49333-2)

PONTIAC 1979, full options, AC,
automatic, power steering and
breaks, grey in good condition
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(AT6-49318-2)

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December '89. KD275. Tel.
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(AT4-49259-3)

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fridges, washing machine,
vacuum cleaner, stereo and other
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stand stool carrying case etc.
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(AT4-TM-3)

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ing table with 6 chrome chairs,
KD55 formica table with 8 chairs
coffee table and kitchen tables
KD30 and many more. Tel.
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1.30 pm and 7.30-8.30 pm.
(AT5-49332-3)

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motorbike, registered up to July
1990, for sale. Owner leaving
Kuwait. Best offer. Tel. Stanley
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(AT6-49336-2)

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Original price, KD310. 3 months
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Sharq and tuitions in English,
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REQUIRED for 5 persons from
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4676701 ext 212, 7.30 am-3 pm.
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REQUIRED for a lady from the
Mowasat Hospital to Fahd Salem
Street, 8.30 am, 1 pm, and 4.30
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office hours
(AT5-49314-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MAID required for a small family
of 4 persons to live-in in Salmiya.
Must speak English and have a
transferable visa. Tel. 5749605.
Res.
(AT6-49338-2)

MAID required for a Kuwaiti
family to live-in. Must speak
excellent English with housekeep-
ing experience. Tel. 2460420.
(AT6-49330-3)

MAID required, Indian Christian
for an Indian family to live-in in
Farwaniya, must speak English.
Tel. 5361001 ext 112.
(AT4-49379-3)

DRIVER required Sri Lankan or
Indian for a family. Must have trans-
ferable residence. Tel.
2553025
(AT4-49270-3)

MAID required to work 25-30
hours per week. Afternoons
preferred. Must speak English.
Tel. 5323262
(AT6-49315-3)

MAID required Filipino, for an
English family, to live-in. Accom-
modation available for husband,
in Salwa. Must speak good Eng-
lish. Tel. 5616228, 9am-2 pm.
(AT4-49274-3)

REQUIRED, Indian maid for a full-
time job for a small Egyptian
family living in Salmiya. Speaking
excellent English and good
knowledge about baby-sitting
having a transferable residence.
Tel. 5632794, 2550564.
(AT6-49334-3)

MAID required, Filipino, for a
small family to live in Sabah Al
Salem. Must have transferable
visa. Salary negotiable. Tel.
5515539.
(AT6-49327-2)

Wanted

MAID, Sri Lankan with good
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English family. Tel. 4893503, 9
am-12 noon
(AT5-49307-3)

PROFESSIONALLY qualified
female, rank-chartered (CA) and
cost accountant (ICWA) with
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Please call:
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**Oh, No!
This can't
be mine!**
**I should
have called
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Freight agent in Kuwait.

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Fahad 3820488/89 - Shahr 2490972/3
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Coaching by Russian trained teacher.
• Swimming sessions from 17th September.
Enrol now — limited space available
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— Good knowledge in salesmanship
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Who have passed
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Transferable visa is a must.

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For sub-contract works in
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Al Khamis & Al Aryan Project,
Al Qurain, Sabah Al Salem.
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**A female executive
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SPORTS

Kankkunen tipped to win rally

PERTH, Australia, Sept 13, (Reuters): Former world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland of Toyota Team Europe is favourite to win the first World Rallying Championship event in Australia after two weeks of driving the continent's rough out-back roads.

Kankkunen, world champion in 1986 and 1987, has clocked the fastest times ahead of tomorrow's opening stage in his Toyota Celica GT4 in unofficial practice over the 1,845-km course around Perth, in Western Australia.

"I didn't know much about the route at all," said the Finn after reconnoitering the course with navigator Juha Piironen.

"There are a lot of rough roads and gravel but the suspension in the Toyota has been excellent."

Fellow Toyota driver Kenneth Eriksson of Sweden and Finn Markku Alen, runner-up in the last three world championships, are also expected to be among the pace-setters along with Italy's Alessandro Fiorio and Sweden's Mikael Ericsson.

Eriksson comes fresh from his surprise victory in the 1,000 Lakes in Finland where he became only the second non-native to win the event in his Mitsubishi.

Eriksson gave Toyota one of their best results of a disappointing season by finishing fourth in the 1,000 Lakes.

Alen's Lancia has achieved little besides a second place in Portugal last March, but his team have already won the manufacturers' title thanks to 1988 world champion Massimo Biondini. The Italian is confident enough of taking his second successive crown to skip the Perth event.

The rally, which includes 21 special stages over 544 km, is the 10th round in the World Drivers' Championship and the eighth in the manufacturers' contest.

Alen is hoping the fine weather will continue. "The roads are good but I hope there isn't rain during the event — some of the corners will become very muddy and slippery."

Fiorio, another Lancia driver, is joint fourth in the world championship table alongside Sweden's Ingvar Carlsson.

Capri defeat Punjab to reach final

CAPRI Cricket Club moved into the finals of the Zia-ul-Haq Memorial Tournament with a 21-run victory over Punjab Cricket Club at the Fafahed Industrial Ground earlier this week.

PCC won the toss and put Capri into bat. Capri scored 131, losing all their wickets in the 25 allotted overs. They had been in trouble at the start when two of their upper-order batsmen, Adnan and Bittu, lost their wickets cheaply.

Raju played well for his 35 and Zia scored 36 to put Capri on a stronger footing. Irfan chipped in with 18 runs while Marash scored 10.

For PCC, Naseem bowled well to take three wickets while Aslam Asghar and Tariq took two wickets and Rashid Ansari one.

PCC started on a bad note, losing Aslam in the first over to Nasir. PCC were soon in trouble, losing their first five wickets for only 40 runs.

Rashid hit 35 and Anand 19 but PCC were never able to hit themselves out of trouble and were all out for 110 in 21 overs.

Zia took three wickets while Irfan and Nasir got one each. Adnan and Naseem chipped in with one wicket each. Zia was named Man of the Match.

Mansoor to lead Kifco

KIFCO cricketers have named Mansoor Khan as captain for the forthcoming cricket season, commencing from September 15, at Ahmadi and NC simultaneously.

He will replace Aqueel Ashraf, who successfully led Kifco to win all the major tournaments in last four years.

Ace batsman Arshad Shams will have the responsibility of vice-captain. The team for this year has been strengthened by induction of seasoned right-arm leg-spinners Rafiq Butt, young medium fast bowler Yagor Anwar and all-rounder Amin Ahsan.

Other members of the team are Aqueel Ashraf, Nasir Ahmed, Shahid Butt, Rashid Ansari, Zamin Nawvi, Mohammad Shehzad, Nisar Ahsan, Zafar Abbasi, Shehzad Abdullah and Faisal Hasnain. Abdullah Iraqi will repeat his responsibility of manager.

Sami tournament

SKYLARK meet ACC and Salmiya face Deccan Blue in the opening matches of the Haji Mohammed Sami Khan Memorial Cricket Tournament at the Salmiya Cricket Ground tomorrow at 8 am.

The tournament will be opened by Pakistan embassy Charge d'Affaires Syed Akbar Afridi. Mohammed Hasib Khan is the tournament secretary.

Capriati adds zest to US Wightman Cup team

WILLIAMSBURG, Va., Sept 13, (Reuters): The annual US hammering of Britain in the Wightman Cup has been given added zest this year with the inclusion of a 13-year-old girl who is already being hailed as the successor to Chris Evert as the queen of American tennis.

Jennifer Capriati, who on Sunday added

the US junior title to the French and Belgian crowns, tomorrow will become the first amateur to play in the annual women's team competition between the two countries since the Open era began in 1968.

Capriati will play one of the singles matches in the three-day competition to be held at William and Mary College in a team that

includes another teenager, Mary Joe Fernandez, Lori McNeil, Patty Fendick and Betty Nagelsen.

"I'm excited about the Wightman Cup, it's a big honour," Capriati said after her US Open victory in which she beat girls several years her senior.

"Being with professional players will be a

lot of fun."

Explaining the choice of Capriati, US coach Marty Riessen said: "There is no hesitation at all. She is very mature. She plays older than her age."

Such is the depth of the US team that they can afford to contest the 61st Wightman Cup without such established stars as Mar-

tina Navratilova, the retired Evert and US Open semifinalist Zina Garrison who are ranked second, fifth and sixth in the world respectively.

Fernandez is ranked 13th. McNeil is 25th and Capriati is unranked as she is too young to be a professional. Fendick, who is ranked

27th, is a doubles specialist like 41-ranked Nagelsen.

Britain's top player is Jo Durie who brings a 102 ranking into the tournament. She is accompanied by Sara Gomer (118) and Claire Wood (154), and by Wightman newcomers Amanda Grunfield (173), Ann Hobbs (227) and Sarah Loosmore (302).

Liverpool go top

Crystal Palace crushed 9-0



Aldridge: last match for Liverpool

LONDON, Sept 13, (Reuters): Liverpool scored their biggest ever English First Division win yesterday when they crushed Crystal Palace 9-0 at Anfield to go top of the League for the first time this season.

Eight different players found the net — Scottish international defender Steve Nicol scored twice — as Liverpool ran riot against the First Division newcomers.

Nicol opened the scoring in the seventh minute and closed it in the 86th. Steve McMahon and Ian Rush contributed to put the hosts 3-0 by half-time but then the floodgates opened as Gary Gillespie, England strikers Peter Beardsley and John Barnes, Swede Glenn Hysen and John Aldridge, making his last appearance before joining Spain's Real Sociedad, all netted.

Aldridge was brought on as substitute to score from the penalty spot in the 67th minute after midfielder Ronnie Whelan had been brought down. At the final whistle Aldridge, a life-long Liverpool fan, threw his shirt and boots into the crowd amidst emotional scenes.

Results
English Division One
Liverpool 9 Crystal P 0

Portsmouth	Division Two	3
Port Vale	1 Hull	1
Sheffield	2 Swindon	0
Wolves	2 Brighton	4

In Mostar, Yugoslavia, Partizan Belgrade beat Celtic Glasgow 2-1 (1-1) in their first round, first leg European Cup-Winners' Cup soccer match.

Goran Milojovic gave the Yugoslavs, who dominated the first half, a 20th-minute lead on a solo counter attack.

Mike Galloway lobbed Partizan's goalkeeper following a free kick and a perfect pass by Polish international Dariusz Dziekanowski to tie the score to 1-1 in the 43rd minute.

The winning goal for Partizan was scored by forward Milan Djurdjevic who slammed the ball home from about 10 metres in the 56th minute.

Some 15,000 fans watched the game played on a muddy and slippery pitch at the Bijeli Breg stadium in this central Yugoslav city.

Partizan had to play the match outside Belgrade because of incidents caused by its fans during a UEFA Cup match against F.C. Roma last season in the Yugoslav capital.

In Sofia, the UEFA first

round, first leg match between the Sofia team Vitosha and Antwerp of Belgium ended in an uninspirational 0-0 draw.

The match failed to create interest at any point during the 90 minutes of play, which offered spectators not a single serious strike in the direction of either goal.

In Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, Slovan Bratislava got off to a flying start in the Cup Winners Cup with a convincing 3-0 first round, first leg win over Grasshoppers of Zurich.

Jaroslav Tikko scored the first goal for Slovan in the 35th minute.

Vladimir Vankovic confirmed Slovan's dominance when he netted a penalty in the 53rd minute. Dusan Tittel repeated the action with a second penalty kick in the closing (88th) minutes of the match, to give Slovan a handy 3-0 head start going into the away, second leg match in Switzerland at the end of the month.

And in Edinburgh, Scotland, Hibernian, back in Europe for the first time for 11-years, edged Videoton of Hungary 1-0 in a UEFA Cup, first round, first leg soccer game last night.

Unity and Al Hilal draw

UNITY and Al Hilal shared the Starworld Champions Hockey Trophy after playing to a tame goalless draw at the Ahmadi Hockey Grounds earlier this week.

The final lacked any excitement with most of the game being restricted to the midfield. There were mostly solo efforts to score through Asif of Al Hilal and Liaquat and Iftikhar of Unity. The rest of the players resorted to hit and run tactics throughout the game.

The lack of co-ordination between the players was most probably due to lack of match practice as this game was the first of the new hockey season.

The game had to be called off five minutes early due to bad light. The organisers of the event along with the sponsors then decided that the trophy be shared. Unity won the right to keep the trophy for the first six months.



Lopez (left) receives the trophy from Chaudhry Javed.

The chief guest, Chaudhry Javed, then presented the trophy to Unity captain Afza Lopez. The organisers also announced

that the finals of the Al Hilal Trophy between Flying Arrows and Cosmos would be played tomorrow at 4.15 pm.

Daufresne sails into quarterfinals

GENEVA, Sept 13, (Reuters): Belgian Xavier Daufresne, ranked 470th in the world, continued his stunning progress in the Geneva Tennis Grand Prix by cruising into the quarterfinals today.

Daufresne recorded a 6-2 6-4 win over Cassio Motta of Brazil, having produced one of the shock wins of the year by eliminating top-seeded Argentine Alberto Mancini, world ranked 11th, in yesterday's first round.

Daufresne was accepted here only because the organisers were a player short and was released from military service to play. He needed less than an hour to overcome

the Brazilian, ranked 110th in the world.

The Belgian qualifier said later: "I feel tired but terrific. Today's match was my fifth so far. I feel in great form and hope to go further in the tournament."

Two more seeds were toppled in the second round after five fell in the first, leaving number four Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina as the only surviving seed.

His compatriot Eduardo Bengoechea upset third seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador in a tense, rain-interrupted match 7-6 7-5 and Swede Lars Jonsson beat Marcelo Filippini of Uruguay, seeded sixth, 6-3 7-5.

The biggest surprise in the first round came from England's Jason Nicolle who beat Umar Hayat Khan, ranked 29 places higher than him, 15-7, 10-15 14-13 15-12.

Veteran English professional Phil Kenyon beat compatriot Paul Gregory in a marathon 89-minute, five game match then took a swipe at some of his teammates.

Jansher thrashes opponent

HONG KONG, Sept 13, (Reuters): Top seed Jansher Khan started his quest for world number one spot with an accomplished straight games win over England's Robert Owen in the Hong Kong Open Squash Championship today.

The Pakistani, looking for his third successive Hong Kong title, was stretched to win the first game 15-9 but took the next two simply enough 15-10 15-6.

"I have been training hard in London and Pakistan," said Jansher, the world number two. "I want to win the next three tournaments, including the world championship, to get the number one spot back from Jahangir."

Australia's Chris Robertson, the fourth seed, kept on course for a semifinal with Jansher by beating Egypt's Ahmed Taher 15-11 15-5 15-6.

The biggest surprise in the first round came from England's Jason Nicolle who beat Umar Hayat Khan, ranked 29 places higher than him, 15-7, 10-15 14-13 15-12.

Veteran English professional Phil Kenyon beat compatriot Paul Gregory in a marathon 89-minute, five game match then took a swipe at some of his teammates.



Belenses player Jose Mario (left) fights for the ball with Argentinian player of Monaco Ramon Diaz in Lisbon during the first leg of the Cup Winners Cup match. The match ended in a 1-1 draw. (Reuters wirephoto)

I won the fight: Laciari Roman retains title

LOS ANGELES, Sept 13, (Reuters): Mexico's Gilberto Roman used his jab effectively to retain his World Boxing Council (WBC) superflyweight title with a unanimous points decision over former champion Santos Laciari of Argentina yesterday.

"I think I fought the perfect fight for this kind of fighters," said Roman, a two-time WBC super flyweight champion, through an interpreter.

While Roman's quick jab kept Laciari at a safe distance, the champion was unable to cause much damage to the Argentine.

Roman, 27, knocked Laciari down in the second round, but the 30-year-old challenger got up quickly.

In the middle rounds the slow pace of the fight drew boos from the crowd.

Roman opened a cut on Laciari's head after the fighters hit heads in the 11th round, but the Argentine said it did not bother him.

Laciari said he thought he won the fight.

"I ran after Roman the whole fight," Laciari said through an interpreter. "He was going away from me."

The judges scored the 12-round fight 117-112, 118-110 and 117-111. The victory raises Roman's record to 53-4-1. Laciari, a former World Boxing Association flyweight champion, dropped to 77-9-11.

It was the third title fight between the two boxers and the first time Roman had beaten Laciari.

Jojo and George win

JOJO NELAPPANA and George Chako beat Bai Sharma and M.M. Joshi in the Indian Arts Circle (IAC) Badminton Tournament, open to all Indians in Kuwait and sponsored by KIBEC, as Indians celebrated the Onam Festival on Tuesday.

Jojo and George won the first set 15-6 but lost the second 16-18. In the third set, Jojo and George were given a tough fight before they finally prevailed over their opponents 15-12.

In the other gents doubles match, Bijoy M and Philip Cherian fought back after losing the first set to overcome Jacob Thomas and Edison Verghese 16-18 15-13 15-3.

In the mixed doubles, Simi Mathew and Matthew N.C. beat Rashmi Ashok and J. Ashok Kumar 15-10 15-12 15-18-16. Little Rashmi played an excellent game and proved that she has an excellent future in the sport.

In the gents singles, Reji Verghese struggled to reach the quarterfinals by defeating Jojo 15-10, 9-15, 9-15. In another gents singles, Bijoy M had no trouble to reach the quarterfinals with a 15-1, 15-2 victory.

The gents doubles match between Mathew Thomas and Alex Mathew and K. Venkataraman and V. Jayaraman was a one-sided game in which Mathew and Alex group won 15-7, 15-1.

Other results. Gents singles: Louis Gonsalves defeated J.S. Anand 10-15 15-3 15-6. Reji Joseph easily beat Jacob Thomas 15-4, 15-2.

Gents doubles: Reji Joseph and Louis Gonsalves beat Joseph Philip and Koshi George 15-6 15-5. Saji Varghese and Varghese Joseph defeated Muralidharan and G.S. Anand 15-3, 15-9. Mixed doubles: Suja Varghese and Varghese Joseph beat Rema Ashok and M.D. Verghese.

Tomorrow's fixtures: Gents singles: Siva Kumar or Bobby Thangar vs J. Ashok Kumar or George Chako (quarterfinals) (7 pm). Gents doubles: Reji Joseph and Chery George or Johnson Varghese and K.S. Jose vs Reji Verghese and Cherian A or Mathew Thomas and Alex Mathew or Philip Cherian and Bijoy M. (semifinals) (9.30 pm).

Siva Kumar and Matthew N.C. vs Jojo and George Chako (8.30 pm). Junior girls singles: Rashmi Ashok vs Anju Abraham (8 pm) Junior Boys Singles: Geku George vs Abhilash Thankappan (7.30 pm) Coupled doubles: Rema Ashok and J. Ashok Kumar vs Rashmi Ashok and Edison Verghese (9 pm).

Lemond signs \$5m deal with French team

PARIS, Sept 13, (AP): American Greg Lemond, winner of this year's Tour de France and the cycling world championship, said today he has signed a three-year, \$5.5-million contract with the French "Z" cycling team.

The contract, the richest ever in cycling, was announced at a news conference by Lemond and Roger Zannier, the president of Z, a children's clothing manufacturer. Zannier said one or more partners would eventually join in backing the team.

"I had the possibility between 7-Eleven, Toshiba and Z. I analysed very carefully every team," Lemond said. "I believed that Z was the best one for me because they have the riders I need which are climbers. I think the most important for me is to have a strong team in the Tour de France."

Among Lemond's new teammates are Robert Millar of Britain and French cyclists Ronan Penec and Eric Boyer.

"I am very happy because we now have on our team a great leader," Zannier said. "I think we will now be a winner because we now have a great champion."

Lemond said he made his choice about two weeks ago. "At the world championships (Aug. 27), I made my decision for me, my career, I believed that Z was the best," Lemond, 28, said.

SPORTS BRIEFS

European soccer

LONDON, Sept 13, (Reuters): Results of first-round first-leg matches in the three European club soccer competitions today.

Real Betis (Yugoslavia) 2 Olympique (Greece) 1 (1-0). Dinamo Tirana (Albania) 1 Dinamo Bucharest (Romania) 0 (0-0). Slavia Wladivostok (Russia) 1 Nantoro Tirana (Albania) 0 (1-0). Kad-Marx-Stadt (East Germany) 1 Boavista (Portugal) 0 (1-0). Ruch Chorzow (Poland) 1 CFKA Sopot (Poland) 0 (1-1). Sparta Prague (Czechoslovakia) 1 Fenerbahce Istanbul (Turkey) 1 (0-1).

Olympic boxing

ROME, Sept 13, (AP): International Olympic Committee chairman Antonio Samaranch said in an interview published today that boxing will be banned from the Olympics if hazards to the health of athletes are proven.

Danish team

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept 13, (AP): The Australian Soccer Federation today withdrew an invitation for the Danish national team to tour Australia later this year, saying the Danes would not be able to field a full strength team.

Soccer giants

MANCHESTER, England, Sept 13, (UPI): English League soccer giants Manchester United is to sign Southampton forward Danny Wallace for \$1.2 million (\$1.92 million).

Soviet triumph

ATHENS, Greece, Sept 13, (AP): The USSR won the 5th Junior Men's World Volleyball Championship by beating Japan 3-1 (15-13, 15-7, 15-11, 15-1) in the finals played at the Peace and Friendship stadium here yesterday.

Salcedo win

IN the head-to-head semifinals of the 1989 Men's World Cup, a 10-man tournament played on Friday at Sour Grounder, Salcedo defeated Gao Marous by 1-0 goals and entered into the finals to be played on Sept 25, 1989.

Scottish golfer

VIRGINIA WATER, England, Sept 13, (AP): Scotland's Sam Torrance has broken into the top ten golfers in the European PGA Tour money winners following his performance Sunday at the European Open, figures showed yesterday.

Czech player

ABSTENTED: Sept 13, (Reuters): PSV Eindhoven are prepared to consider releasing Czechoslovak international Josef Chovanec, signed as a replacement for Barcelona-bound Ronald Koeman last year.

Nehru Cup

MELBOURNE, Sept 13, (Reuters): Australia named all-rounder Simon O'Donnell and spinner Peter Taylor today in their 14-man squad for the Nehru Cup one-day cricket tournament in India starting next month.

RESULTS: of Sheraton Bridge Club's game held on Tuesday

N/S
1. Samaha & Moussalli
2. Mesdani & Bayoumi
3. Ghani & Drezler
E/W
1. Harris & Carsten
2. Ravi & Mukherjee
3. Muz Persin & D'Souza

Marathon bridge will be held at Sheraton on Friday at 3.00 pm.

Results of the Westminster System-17 game played at the Regency Palace on Sunday evening:

1. Peter Harris - Mamdouni Sabri
2. Nabil Akel & Marouda Shah and Sherin Bayoumi & Ahmed Hossni

Ladies Regency Bridge Club: The first game of the season will be held on Wednesday, Sept 20, at the Regency premises at 9.00 am.

Messiah Ladies Bridge Club: The first game of the season will be held at the Messiah premises at 9.00 am on Monday, Sept 25.

Chile 'keeper

Roberto Rojas, goalkeeper for the Chilean national soccer team, speaks during a press conference in Santiago on Tuesday with a bandage over his left eyebrow. Rojas said he would travel to Zurich to meet with FIFA officials as soon as his doctors authorise him to travel there. Rojas has been accused of taking injury during the Brazil-Chile World Cup qualifier. (Reuters wirephoto)

9,000 students to take part in Peace and Friendship Championships Iran may meet Iraq in football tourney opener

IRAN may meet Iraq in the opening match of the first Peace and Friendship Championships football tournament, due to be held in Kuwait from Oct 30 to Nov 12.

A responsible source in the organising committee of the championship said that plans were being made to open the football competition with a match between the two sides. Iraq and Iran were placed in the same group when the draws were made this week.

Meanwhile, it has been decided that Kuwait would take part in all the five games being held in the event — football, basketball, volleyball, handball and athletics.

These championships are being held for the Islamic countries and are the brainchild of HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. So far, 45 Islamic countries have agreed to take part in the event. The participation is restricted to members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

The Ministry of Education, meanwhile, has announced that it will take an active part in the championship, especially the inaugural session of the event. Over 9,000 students, from various educational stages in addition to teachers and coaches, will take part in the opening

ceremonies.

The undersecretary at the Ministry of Education has said that his ministry will use all its resources to ensure the success of the event.

The Director of Physical Education and Sports at the Ministry Dr Jassem Al Jeemaz said that over 1,200 students would take part in a special parade.

A musical composition, written by the deputy chairman of the organising committee Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed and composed by Kuwaiti composer Anwar Abdullah will be one of the highlights of the opening ceremonies, along with songs by Kuwaiti singers.

Sheikh Fahd is also the chairman of the Kuwait Football Association, Kuwait Olympic Committee and the Olympic Council of Asia.

Al Jeemaz said that the students will begin training for the event from Saturday, Sept 16. A large number of teachers will lead the students and also direct them.

The opening ceremonies of the championship will be held at the Kazma Stadium which has been specially renovated for the occasion.

Specially trained students will mount colourful displays which will include welcome signs in the



Sheikh Fahd: deputy chairman of organising committee

three languages. Over 25 displays have been selected out of 75 submitted by a specialist to the Ministry of Education. The displays will also include references to Kuwait's present and past.

In the draws held on Monday,

Lebanon, Kuwait vs Uganda

and Lebanon vs Brunei.

Group B - Iraq vs Guinea, Iran vs North Yemen, Iran vs Guinea, North Yemen vs Iraq, North Yemen vs Guinea and Iraq vs Iran.

Volleyball

Group A - Saudi Arabia vs Comoros, South Yemen vs Kuwait, South Yemen vs Comoros, Kuwait vs Saudi Arabia, Kuwait vs Comoros and Saudi Arabia vs South Yemen.

Maleeva triumphs

PHOENIX, Sept 13, (UPI): Second-seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria recovered from a sluggish start to win the final 10 games and post a 6-4, 6-0 first-round victory over Donna Faber in the \$100,000 Virginia Slims of Arizona.

No. 3 seed Susan Sloan, though, was upset by unseeded Camille Benjamin, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3. Benjamin, a left-hander, won the first three points of the first-set tie-breaker, then registered the key service break in the sixth game of the second set.

In another upset, England's Montague Javer downed No. 6 Tracy Martin, 6-1, 2-6, 6-4.

Maleeva, 20, who has been hampered by injuries, trailed 3-1 when Faber broke early. However, the world's No. 16 player squandered the set with a break in the eighth game, then took the set with another break when Faber double-faulted.

Maleeva, whose older sister, Manuela, won the tournament last year, raced through the next set unchallenged.

"Today's result is the way it should be," said Maleeva.



Coe: may run his last race

Cubs take 4 1/2-game lead over Cardinals

Phillies edge Mets

CHICAGO, Sept 13, (AP): Mike Bielecki pitched a two-hitter — allowing no hits over the final seven innings — and the Chicago Cubs beat the Montreal Expos 2-0 to take a 4 1/2-game lead over St. Louis in the National League East.

Last night's victory was the fourth straight for the Cubs and their fifth win in six games. The fourth-place Expos lost for the fifth time in six games and fell six games behind the Cubs. The Cardinals lost 5-2 to Pittsburgh.

The Cubs also moved 5 1/2 games ahead of the third-place New York Mets, who lost 2-1 to Philadelphia.

Bielecki gave up a leadoff single to Tim Lincecum in the first inning and a single to Tim Wallach with one out in the second.

"I've never pitched a better game but it could have gone either way," said Bielecki, whose previous best effort was a three-hit, 4-0, shutout against Los Angeles on July 19.

In St. Louis, Bob Walk allowed five hits in 8 2/3 innings for his fourth victory over the Cardinals this season, and Pittsburgh continued its role of spoiler.

The Pirates, who have won four straight, took two of three in New York over the weekend to shatter the Mets' pennant hopes and are doing the same to the Cardinals.

Philadelphia's Dickie Thon homered with one out in the ninth inning to lift the Phillies past New York. The Mets, who are 28-41 on the road, have 18 games left in the season.

In San Francisco, Dale Murphy hit a three-run homer off Steve Bedrosian to cap a five-run Atlanta rally in the eighth inning and lift the Braves over the Giants, 6-5.

Combined with San Diego's victory over Houston, the loss reduced the Giants' lead over the second-place Padres to five games in the National League West.

San Diego's Bruce Hurst pitched a two-hitter for his ninth

complete game and Roberto Alomar drove in four runs, leading surging San Diego past Houston, 9-0.

The Padres, who have won 16 of their last 19 games, swept the two-game series from the Astros to take over second place in the National League West.

Dodger pinch-hitter Mike Marshall's bases-loaded, two-run double with none out in the ninth inning rallied Los Angeles over Cincinnati in that 5-4 contest.

Results	
National League	
Chicago	2 Montreal
Philadelphia	2 New York
Pittsburgh	5 St. Louis
San Diego	9 Houston
Los Angeles	5 Cincinnati
Atlanta	6 San Francisco

American League	
Chicago	11 Baltimore
Cleveland	1 Detroit
Minnesota	8 Toronto
Kansas City	6 Texas
Milwaukee	7 Oakland
Seattle	5 Boston
California	7 New York

Standings	
National League	
East Division	
W	L Pct GB
Chicago	82 63 .566
St. Louis	77 67 .535 4 1/2
New York	76 68 .528 5 1/2
Montreal	76 69 .524 6 1/2
Pittsburgh	65 79 .451 16 1/2
Philadelphia	59 85 .410 22 1/2

West Division	
W	L Pct GB
San Francisco	83 62 .572
San Diego	78 67 .538
Houston	76 69 .524
Cincinnati	70 75 .483 13
Los Angeles	69 76 .476 14
Atlanta	57 88 .398 26

American League	
East Division	
W	L Pct GB
Toronto	80 65 .552
Baltimore	79 68 .537
Milwaukee	74 72 .507 6 1/2
Boston	70 75 .483 10
New York	67 79 .459 13 1/2
Cleveland	66 78 .458 13 1/2
Detroit	55 91 .377 25 1/2

West Division	
W	L Pct GB
Oakland	87 57 .604
Kansas City	84 60 .583 3
California	83 61 .576 4
Texas	75 70 .519 13 1/2
Minnesota	72 72 .500 15
Seattle	63 81 .438 24
Chicago	60 84 .417 27

Spitz attempting return

LOS ANGELES, Sept 13, (AP): Mark Spitz, who won an all-time record seven gold medals in the 1972 Olympics, will try to qualify for the 1992 games in the 100-metre butterfly, according to a published report.

A story in yesterday's editions of USA Today quoted the 39-year-old Spitz, considered the greatest swimmer in Olympic history, as saying he is training for the US Olympic trials, which will be held in 1 1/2 years.

The Associated Press learned that Spitz is, indeed, attempting a comeback and believes he can do it. It was also learned that a lengthy article on Spitz' comeback attempt written by Bud Greenspan will appear in next Sunday's Parade magazine.

Spitz will be 42 when the next Olympics are held in Barcelona, Spain.

"I don't really call this a comeback because I left this sport at the top," Spitz was quoted as saying by USA Today. "I want to swim the next three years like there's no tomorrow and, to me, that would be the accomplishment."

Spitz not only won seven gold medals in the Games at Munich 17 years ago, he set seven world records. But he will focus on just the one event, the 100-metre butterfly, at the present time.

Spitz won the gold medal in the 100-metre butterfly at the 1972 Olympics in 54.27 seconds, a time which would have been eighth-best at the 1988 Games.

US Swimming Inc., officials confirmed Monday that Spitz was reinstated as an eligible competitor by Fina, the world aquatic sports federation, USA Today said.

To compete in the US trials, Spitz has to attain the trials qualifying time, which is still undetermined, in a regional meet. Then, he would have to finish first or second in the trials to qualify for the 1992 Games.

Spitz has been involved in real estate and the manufacturing of children's clothes in recent years.

Kingdom beats Nehemiah in 110m hurdles again

Italians set world bests in Verona meet

VERONA, Italy, Sept 13, (AP): Italians Stefano Laibruschini and Ileana Salvador set world bests and US hurdler Roger Kingdom earned one of three victories by Americans at the city of Verona Track and Field Meeting.

Laibruschini yesterday won the 2,000-metre steeplechase in 5 minutes, 18.36 seconds, more than six seconds ahead of Belgium's William van Dick. Laibruschini broke the mark set by Samson Obwocha of Kenya in 1986 by 1.32 seconds.

Salvador walked two miles in 13:23.04, shattering the previous world best of 13:47.8 by another Italian, Giuliana Salce, set in 1987.

Neither mark will count as world record because both were achieved over distances which are not included among Olympic and world championship events.

Kingdom, the world record holder, won the 110-metre hurdles in 13.245 seconds, beating fellow US nationals Reinaldo Nehemiah and Eric Cannon.

Andre Phillips led another 1-2-3 US Sweep in the 400-metre hurdles, beating Nat Page and Danny Harris in 48.70 seconds. Mike Bunick, also of the US, won the discus with a mark of 201 feet, 7 1/2 inches.

Jamaican runners swept the 100-metre sprint. Marlene Ottey won the women's race in a wind-aided time of 11.06 seconds, beating American Diane Williams. While Ray Stewart captured the men's race in 10.14.

Italy's Stefano Tilli upset Americans Henry Thomas and Thomas Jefferson to win the 200-metre dash in 20.58 seconds.

Algerian Nordine Moreceli and Kenyan Wilfred Kirochi took the men's 1,500-metre and



Kingdom: won in 13.245 seconds

800-metre races, while Italy's Salvatore Antibo beat Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan in the 3,000 metres.

Meanwhile, Sebastian Coe was named yesterday to run the

800 metres at an international meet in London on Friday in what could be his last appearance on the track.

In Barcelona last week at the World Cup, Coe, who will be 33 on Sept 30, said he would announce tomorrow whether he would extend his glittering career to include next January's Commonwealth Games in Auckland.

Speculation is strong that the double 1,500-metre Olympic champion and the man who has held on to world records in the 800 and 1000 metre since 1981 will retire to embark on his political career.

If Friday's 800 metres is his last race, it seems that Coe has been presented with a glorious opportunity to carve out an easy farewell win.

He faces mainly domestic opposition in the shape of World Student Games silver medalist

Ikem Billy, world junior silver medalist Kevin MacKay, European indoor champion Steve Heard and Birchfield's Rob Harrison.

Coe will not be facing the hoped-for rematch with his World Cup conqueror Abdi Bile, who turned down an offer to race Coe at Crystal Palace.

Coe had said he was happy to have a re-run with Bile, who nipped him in controversial circumstances for the World Cup 1,500-metre title in Barcelona on Saturday. But the African demanded to run the mile instead.

In that race, said Aouita has already been booked to have another crack at Steve Cram's world record.

Aouita will take on Olympic silver medalist Peter Elliott and East Germany's bronze medalist Jens-Peter Herold.



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مركز الاعلام

CRICKET

Sri Lanka to review Test ban

COLOMBO, Sept. 13. (Reuters) Sri Lanka is to review the 25-year Test cricket ban on 14 players who toured South Africa, the Sports Ministry said today.

Crickets clubs and associations had been asked for their views on the banning of the 14 who took part in the rebel tour in 1963, a ministry statement said.

It said it wanted to know whether there had been a "violation of principle of national justice affecting the rights of the players...resulting in a miscarriage of justice and to find out whether the punishment meted out in October 1982 was excessive."

The rebels, led by Sri Lanka's then cricket captain Bandula Warnapura, slipped out of the country after the trip was banned and for two months toured racially-divided South Africa.

On their return they were banned from Test and local cricket for 25 years. Last March the cricket board lifted the domestic cricket ban on all of them except Warnapura and the manager as they were reported to have gone to South Africa again to play cricket.

The ministry said the views they had canvassed were expected by September 22 and would be examined at a public inquiry.

The statement said Sports Minister Nanda Mathew had also appointed a commissioner to investigate the activities of the cricket board in the period January 1982 to June 1989.

It did not elaborate.

Drivers set for Marlboro Desert Challenge

Prince Abdullah drops out

AMMAN. With Jordan's Prince Abdullah an unfortunate non-starter in the BP 2000 Trophy Raid (Marlboro Desert Challenge), Middle East champion Mohammed bin Sulayem and Qatari star Abbas Al Mosawi look to be heading for a head-to-head battle in the 4WD event.

While the withdrawal of the Prince yesterday because of a back injury was a big disappointment for the organisers, they expect a thrilling contest to unfold along a route circling Amman's international airport.

In the thick of the action, almost certainly, will be Sulayem in his Winston Toyota Land-cruiser and Mosawi in a Mitsubishi Pajero.

Saudi Arabia's Mohammed Al Malki, who drives another Pajero, is one of a number of competitors who believes this event is likely to develop into a two-horse race, barring any mechanical disasters.

"It will be between Mohammed and Abbas," said Al Malki yesterday before setting off for another practice session. "They are the best two drivers and they have the best two cars."



Al Mosawi in action in an earlier rally.



Bin Sulayem



Al Wazzan

One man hoping to shatter that prediction is Lebanon's Michel Saleh, who won a hill climb event in Amman recently from King Hussein, and has unwavering belief in his ability to triumph again, this time at the wheel of a Range Rover.

"Michel has a very good chance to do well — that's for sure," said Mamdouh Al Khayat, Saudi Arabia's other

representative in the Hashemite Kingdom. "But he will have to be very fast to beat Mohammed and Abbas."

While Mosawi is aiming for his second successive win in the 1989 Desert Challenge having captured the title last year, Sulayem will be making his debut in the series in a vehicle specially-prepared by the Winston Toyota Team Middle East.

Dominant in the more prestigious Fisa Middle East Championship for the past three years, the UAE driver — enjoying additional support from Emirates — hopes to add to his 17 international victories.

Today's prologue — a single special stage — will decide the starting order for tomorrow when the cars tackle just over 90-km of competitive stages.

Kuwait's Tareq Al Wazzan and Khaled Khalifa have experienced problems due to the late arrival of the Pajeros from Dubai. The cars finally arrived Monday afternoon, and the Marlboro practised hard yesterday to make up for lost time. Scrutineering was yesterday afternoon, and there was little

time for the pairing to familiarise themselves with the long-wheel base Sonauto they will be using for the rally.

"Of course, we've been over the route a few times," said Wazzan. "but my real concern is getting to know the car, and refining our pace notes accordingly."

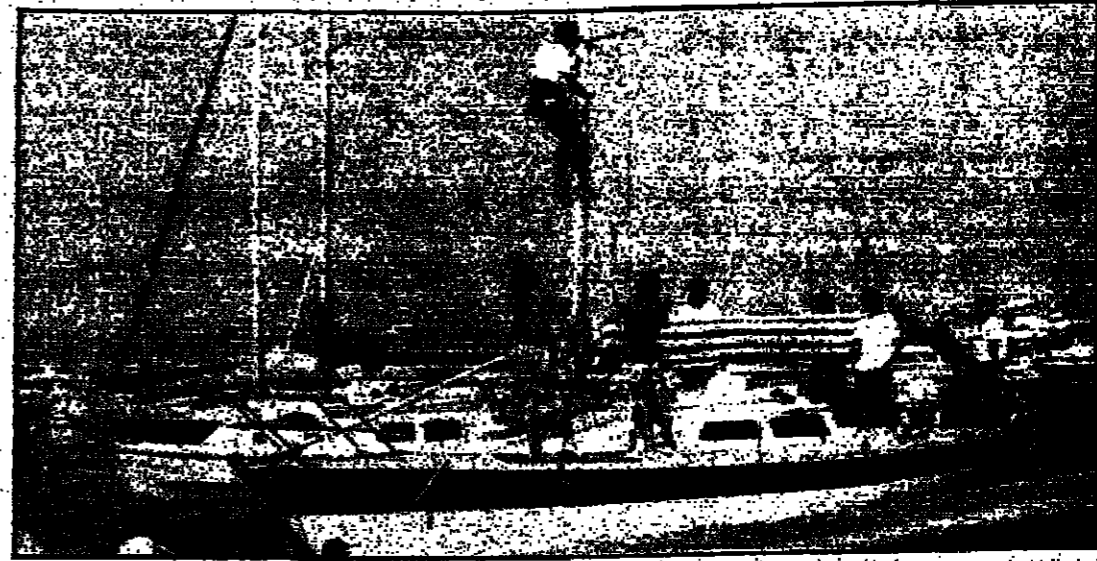
"The stages are very rough and bumpy, and stage one in particular will demand accuracy — it's a very hilly and is an excellent stage."

The Marlboro-Mitsubishi team are expected to have a certain advantage on the stages, as they have both power and strength. However, they share this asset with fellow Marlboro teammate Saleh.

Bin Sulayem last night predicted a tremendous battle for victory the UAE star said: "This event has been designed to produce an exciting finish, and I'm sure it will."

"The route is very compact, with the stages short and fast. That means it will be difficult for anybody to build up a good lead, so the result could be decided over the last few kilometres."

"Obviously, I will be up against some very strong opposition, but the Landcruiser gives me a lot of confidence," added Sulayem, who is driving with additional support from Emirates. "I am very happy to be back in Jordan. I always receive a good welcome in this country and I have had some great victories here in the past. I hope I can achieve another one at the weekend."



One of the crews working on their boat.

Kosa begins new season

KOSA (Kuwait Offshore Sailing Association) begins its new racing season tomorrow. The Kosa fleet, which is based at the Shaab Yacht Club, currently consists of yachts ranging from 24 to 33 feet in length. Each boat is assigned a racing handicap by the Royal Ocean Racing Club (Channel Handicap System) related to its design and specifications. Theoretically, this ensures that racing will be competitive.

Races are generally scheduled every fortnight and are designed around short and long courses of between 2 to 8 hours duration. A long distance race will cover up to 50 miles and may take boats up to 10 miles offshore. Conditions in Kuwait vary from very light (+5 knots) breezes to strong (+20 knot) winds. Racing under heavy conditions for up to 8 hours can be quite demanding and calls for people with plenty of stamina and determination.

Races are sailed in a com-



Sailors practise for the races.

petitive but fair spirit. The all important tactical decisions that must be taken combined with crew performance can mean that a boat's fortunes will fluctuate throughout a race. Hard working crews that team well together and meet the challenges of the varying conditions usually

triumph. It's not all work though, on non-race days most boats stock up the picnic basket and enjoy a leisurely cruise from Shaab to points along the eastern coast. Additional family members and friends join in. It's a great way to take advantage of Kuwait's hot summer.

The attitude of most boat owners in Kuwait is to actively promote and encourage the sport of yachting. To this end they are always keen to take on new crew whenever openings arise. Several yachts require additional crew members for the upcoming campaign which runs through to Christmas. Although previous experience is an obvious advantage, newcomers to the sport are always made welcome.

If you think you can dedicate yourself to yacht racing (i.e. early Friday mornings!) please call the Kosa secretary, Craig Rhee on 2452880 (W) or 5330509 (H).

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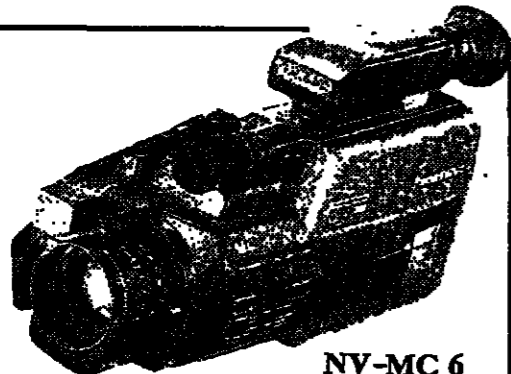
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